

Getting to Know Each Other.

Share light refreshments. Go around the group and introduce yourselves and talk through this question: *“When you were growing up, who was one of your favorite teachers? And why?”* *

Follow up. Did you get to share with someone about Jesus this past week?
Or how else did you obey Jesus?

Vision. Jesus told us to “Make disciples.” The purpose of our Life Group is: To help people become Believers in Jesus and grow up to become Disciple Makers.

Bible Study Introduction. Last time we saw Jesus driving out the money changers and animal sellers from the Temple because it was to be “a house of prayer for all the nations.” Then the disciples saw how Jesus words to a fruitless fig tree had caused it to quickly wither and die. Now Jesus goes on to teach them about how believing prayer can move anything in way of the expansion of the Kingdom of God.

Pray. Before we read the Scripture, let’s pray that God will speak to each one of us.

Read. We will read through the passage two times and then discuss it, so listen carefully. Get two people to read **Mark 11:20-33.** **

Discuss these questions, one at a time, encouraging everyone who wants to respond to do so. Remind the group: Keep your answers based just on this passage.

1. What stands out or surprises you in this passage?
2. What does it show us about people and choices we can make?
 - The Jewish leaders were not happy about Jesus clearing out the Temple. These leaders had refused to believe John the Baptist came with God’s authority. Why would it have been useless to try to convince them that Jesus acted with God’s authority?
3. What does this passage show us about God?
 - Prayer is not about getting what we want. In the Lord’s Prayer, Jesus taught us to pray to our Father in heaven and ask that His Kingdom come and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven. What are some “mountains” that stand in the way of God’s will being done in people’s lives around us?
 - What is an example you have heard about God answering prayer in an amazing way?
 - Refusal to forgive someone is like a mountain the must be moved if the Kingdom of God is going to expand through our lives. Who does God want you to forgive?

Obeying Jesus. As disciples of Jesus, we want to follow Jesus in whatever way He is leading us today. As we pray silently for 30 seconds, see if God speaks to your heart. Pray something like this:
“Lord Jesus, what do you want me to do with what You are showing me today?” [30 sec. silent prayer]

Remember to obey what God is saying to you. And this week ask God who He wants you to talk with about Jesus. Let’s close in prayer.

Closing Prayer.

Pray something like: “Lord, prepare the hearts of the people we will be sharing the Good News of Jesus with this week. And give us strength and joy as we follow You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

* If there are no new people, you can skip the “icebreaker.”
** Reading from different translations often helps.