

Getting to Know Each Other.

Share light refreshments. Go around the group and introduce yourselves and talk through this question: *“What is the most unusual wedding you ever attended or heard about?”* *

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. The Sadducees were a group within the Jewish religious leaders who did not believe that there was life after death – heaven or hell. They came to Jesus with a story they thought proved how foolish it was to believe in life after death. Jesus went right to the root of their false belief.

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 12:18-27**. **

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?
 - What attitude do you think these Sadducees may have had as they asked Jesus this question?
 - Why do you think people today don’t believe in life after death?
3. What does this passage show us about God?
 - What two things did Jesus say these men did not know? Why are these two so important?
 - There is no reason to doubt that we will be great friends with believers we have known here. But the much better marriage in heaven that the Bible speaks of will be our relationship with Jesus.¹ Does that make you glad or sad?
 - Heaven will be far better than we can imagine. And hell will be real. How should knowing that we will live eternally in one place or the other affect the way we live today?

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.*

¹ See Ephesians 5:31-32; Revelation 19:7-9