

Getting to Know Each Other.

Share light refreshments. If there are newcomers, go around the group and introduce yourselves.

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. One thousand four hundred years before Christ, God sent 10 plagues upon Egypt (it’s recorded in Exodus chapters 5-13). The final plague was the death of the first-born son in every family. But the angel of death “passed over” and spared the first born in every Jewish home that had the blood of a lamb sprinkled on the doorway. As the people left Egypt, they ate unleavened bread. In our passage today, the Passover was being celebrated and Jesus was about to be crucified.

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 14:12-16**.

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?
 - Jerusalem was crowded with people there to celebrate the Passover, so it was unlikely that a suitable room would still be available. What would have resulted if the disciples ignored trying to find the man carrying a jar of water and just started searching for a place?
 - What does the fact that they followed Jesus’ instructions show about these disciples?
3. What does this passage show us about God?
 - What do Jesus’ detailed instructions about how the disciples would find the right location show about Jesus?
 - Within hours, Jesus would be betrayed, tried, beaten, and crucified. What does the detailed plan for the Passover meal show about God?
 - During the first Passover, the Jewish slaves in Egypt put the blood of a lamb on their doorways even though it may not have made sense to them. And it saved the life of their first born. What does this show about how we should respond to God?
 - When was a time that God unexpectedly open a door and provide a blessing for you?

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.”*