

LEADERSHIP COACHING: ENCOUNTER

Discipleship Phrase: God, what are you inviting me into? And what's my part?

Big Idea for Series: Start the year seeking God & discovering how He works in the lives of people.

Abiding [grow as a disciple yourself]

The crux of this week's message is that God is unchanging. Hebrews 13:8, tells us, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." In light of that truth, following God will require that we make the "adjustments" in life in order to come underneath His umbrella of protection and favor. Take a quick survey of your own faith journey. Your life now should drastically differ from your life before Christ. What adjustments did you make in your life that now serve as spiritual markers for you?

Leading [learn to facilitate your group more effectively]

Managers simply manage others. Leaders get others to see what could be and then inspire them to begin moving towards that end. We are group leaders, not group managers. Have you ever had a leader get you to see beyond your circumstance, beyond your abilities, beyond what you believed to be possible? If so, it was because they were able to cast a vision to you of something greater than what was. Spend some time at the start of group this week by the casting vision of why we're doing group in the first place. Share why it is important to show up every week, to not just consume but to contribute. Share why making disciples is important and how it has personally affected your life.

Shepherding [know the sheep, feed the sheep, lead the sheep, protect the sheep]

As the shepherd, you must know your sheep. Knowledge comes through relationship, which is best achieved by time & proximity. Make certain, as the shepherd, you are creating opportunities for this to happen. When you do, your ability to shepherd dramatically increases. Because when you're in true relationship, you're familiar with the strengths and challenges of your each group member which can then better guide you as you facilitate group allowing you to get the most out of your in-group time.

Background + [a deeper dive into this week's story]

- Jesus first lays out two of the costs of discipleship (26-27); then, He gives two parables (28-32) that make the same overall point, namely, that a person must consider the cost before he rashly jumps into it. Then Jesus states a third cost of discipleship (33). He then (34-35) gives an illustration about salt to illustrate the cost of *not* truly following Him.
- The word **disciple** in the New Testament does not mean a **multi-stage Christian**; as if there were **converts**, then there are **disciples** who are little "stage-two Christians." Everybody that is converted to Jesus is a disciple.
- The Bible Project - [Luke 1-9](#) [Luke 10-24](#)

"Every group deserves a great group leader..."

WEEK 6 - TOPIC: GOD IS UNCHANGING.

TAKEAWAY: FOLLOWING GOD, REQUIRES THAT I MAKE THE "ADJUSTMENTS" IN LIFE.

Open in Prayer

Welcome/Introductions [[Share the topic & takeaway](#) this week from above]

Review from last week [Build in [accountability](#) to living it out]

Review the Guidelines [[Share the guidelines](#) to set the rails for group time]

Ask A Hook Question [A thought-provoking question to [get the group focused](#)]

What's the biggest change/adjustment you've ever had to make (or had made for you) in your life?

Share Background for the Story [[Provide context](#) to the story from the Bible]

This section contains the record of several incidents that happened when Jesus was the dinner guest of a leading Pharisee. Luke records Jesus' "table-talk" and teachings about God's invitation to enjoy the messianic banquet in the kingdom. It was free for all who would respond. Jesus taught elsewhere that responding meant believing on Him. Now Luke records Jesus' teaching that though salvation was free, discipleship was costly. This is an important balancing revelation. Salvation guarantees heaven, but it also calls for complete commitment to Jesus, not to secure heaven but to express gratitude for heaven.

Share the Story: [Luke 14:26-35](#) [Volunteer from last week [shares](#) the story]

Rebuild the Story [Invites everyone to [engage](#)]

Read from Scripture [[Read out loud](#) to see if anything was added or omitted]

Discussion Questions: [[Dive deeper](#), beyond the surface]

1. What similarities can be identified in all three parables?
 2. *Adjustments* were considered in all 3 parables, what were they specifically and why?
 3. In your life, what *adjustments* have you made and which ones do you know need to be made now?
 4. What's preventing you from making those *adjustments* and what might you miss if you don't?
 5. How can you begin to overcome those fears, make the adjustments, and walk in God's plan for you?
- Assign Next Week's Story:** [Job 42:1-17](#)

Prayer Requests [[Record, share & follow up](#) throughout the week]

Closing Prayer [Ask openly for a volunteer]