
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]

We close out the Encounter series this week by stating this, Encountering God requires a loving union with God. A loving union infers relationship. So, how's your relationship with God? The story for group this week is the conclusion to Job's story. In the discussion questions, we dive into just how Job's relationship with God, dictated his responses. When the storms of life come crashing on your shores, how are you responding? How does that speak to your relationship with God? What is it saying you truly believe?

Leading [learn to facilitate your group more effectively]

Leading is challenging. No literally, leading is having to challenge others regularly for the sake of their growth. In the context of a small group, it must always be done in love. Stand firmly in truth, yet always be mindful to frame it in love. Reflect on your greatest moments of personal growth. What prompted that growth? Was it all-natural and entirely organic? Or was it God-ordained? Did He place someone in your path to inspire you & challenge you to see beyond yourself? Be that person for your group.

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

Whether you believe it or not, whether you feel it or not, you are the shepherd of your group. They are always looking to you and picking up what it is that you are modeling. Would they be able to say that they've adopted a high value of relationship from you? Would that be able to say that they are different from encountering you, just by spending time and being in closer proximity? Make certain to value each precious relationship God has blessed you with. Honor them all. Make a habit out of reaching out regularly (outside of group), just to check-in. The deposit in relational equity will always be fruitful.

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

- Evidence within the book suggests that Job lived during the time of Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob.
- God inspired this book to reveal answers to questions that arise from God's nature and His ways with human beings.
- The Book of Job reveals that while God usually blesses the godly and punishes the ungodly, He does not always do so in this life. There is a more fundamental basis from which God operates. That basis is His own free choice to bless or not bless whomever He will.
- The Bible Project - [Job](#)

“Every group deserves a great group leader...”

WEEK 7 - TOPIC: ENCOUNTERING GOD REQUIRES LOVING UNION WITH GOD.

TAKEAWAY: OBEDIENCE COMES FROM A LOVING UNION WITH GOD.

Open in Prayer

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

Review from last week [Build in accountability to living it out] How are you doing in making “adjustments”?

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]

As a child, were you generally obedient or did you often find yourself in trouble? Share.

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

Job, through some horrible events, lost his family, his wealth, his possessions and his health. He maintains his innocence, yet his “friends” contend that all the tragedy that he has experienced is a result of his unconfessed sin. As Job talks back and forth to his companions, he does begin to question God as to what right God has to “punish” him. God then unleashes His wisdom on Job and he soon realizes his futility.

Share the Story: [Job 42:1-17](#) [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 are somethings that Job knows to be true of God from this passage?
2. How does Job respond to what he knows to be true of God? [Obedient]
3. Share how you’re responding to your most recent struggles. What does that say about what you really believe to be true of God? Does that point to a loving union or a lack thereof?
4. How can you begin to Encounter God in a way that could be described as a loving union?

Assign Next Week’s Story: [Luke 10:1-16](#)

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

Closing Prayer [Ask openly for a volunteer]