



Discipleship Group Review of Lessons 17 & 18

Open the time of equipping with a prayer asking God for learning, retention, and the ability to grow more comfortable in talking about the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Building Upon the foundation

30 minutes

Review Lesson 17: Jesus-Anointed for Ministry

Have a volunteer read section 17 from the Gospel Tool, printed below.

e Gospel Tool

17. Jesus Models and Fulfills Role Conceived by and filled with the Holy Spirit from birth, Jesus began His widespread, public earthly ministry of ushering in God's kingdom only after the Holy Spirit came upon Him for power at His baptism. Jesus embodied, proclaimed, and advanced the Kingdom of God on the earth by healing and delivering the bodies and souls of all who came to Him. Jesus showed the world God's intention to restore all of life and creation to once again live and flourish under His gracious rule.

The facilitator or group may choose one or more of the following activities:

1. Jesus brings the Kingdom of God with power, as we have studied in Luke 4.

Considering both Jesus' actions and Jesus' words, what did it look like for Jesus to:

- a.Embody the Kingdom of God?
- b. Proclaim the Kingdom of God?
- c. Advance the Kingdom of God?

2. John 14:12

In John 14: 12, Jesus makes an astounding, unqualified claim: "I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. They will do even greater things than these because I am going to the Father."

- a. Assess and share: to what degree do your words and your deeds bring the kinds of transformation and restoration that Jesus brought?
- b. Assess and share: To what degree are you familiar with and growing in the empowering work of the Holy Spirit?
- c. Have you ever asked for the Holy Spirit to empower you to advance His Kingdom? Are there specific areas or situations in which you require empowerment? Take a few minutes to share and pray for one another.

Review Lesson 18: Like Father-Like Son

Have a volunteer read section 18 from the Gospel Tool, printed below.

e Gospel Tool

18. Effects of Jesus' Relationship & Role In Jesus, we see the full image and likeness of God! Rich in mercy, compassion, and forgiveness, yet unwavering in truth, justice, and righteousness, Jesus clarifies that all of God's laws and all of God's prophets point to this: loving God with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and loving our neighbor as ourselves.

The facilitator or group may choose <u>one or more</u> of the following activities:

1. Have someone read aloud Mark 12:28-34.

Love was the goal of Jesus' life and the goal of the law and the prophets. As you think back to this portion of the Bible Study, discuss:

- a. What does it mean to love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength? Give a practical example of each.
- b. As you reflect on your Christian life so far, how much of your spiritual growth has been shaped around an effort to grow up in love? Share and discuss.

2. Read and Respond

Read the statement below from Lesson 18, and discuss your responses as a group.

"Every passage in each of the four gospels should be read through the lens of how God is revealing Himself through Jesus."

As you read John 11: 32-37, how did you answer the questions: What is Jesus' revealing to us about God?

What is God the Father expressing through Jesus?

What is another gospel story where God reveals Himself through Jesus?

Building Bridges 15 minutes

Neighborhoods and workplaces offer many opportunities to love our neighbors. Can you think of a situation that you have encountered in your neighborhood or workplace where someone has done something wrong, perhaps broken a rule or irritated you in some way? Without naming any names, share an example or two and then discuss these things:

- How did I respond (or how did I think about responding)?
- 2. With love as my goal, how might I respond differently next time?

Conversely, how have you seen your neighbors or coworkers model Jesus' love to you? How was it clear that they were showing love in Jesus' name? Share your insights and stories so that we can all grow and be inspired!

Building Essentials 15 minutes

Facilitators: you may opt to break into smaller groups of 2 or 3 or remain in a larger group for this portion, depending on your location and circumstances. Zoom groups have the option of using the meeting rooms feature.

Facilitators: choose one or more of the following activities.

Scripture Memory

Take turns reciting Romans 6: 23 and John 3: 16-17 from memory to one another. When you recite your verse, use the format of scripture reference, then the verse, then state again the scripture reference. (We want to keep these verses fresh on our minds, so keep reviewing regularly on your own at home.)

Personal Accountability and Encouragement

Take turns sharing about your experience of practicing the Spiritual Disciplines of either <u>Fasting</u> or <u>Lectio Divina</u>. Do you sense that you are growing in your intimacy with and enjoyment of God?

Prayer for the Lost and for Effective Witness

Share any updates from your prayer list. Pray for each member of your group to be strengthened in faith and love to share the gospel.