

# HOME GROUP

## Leader Guide



**AM I REALLY SAVED?  
SEPTEMBER 7, 2014**



## **SHARE THE VISION (<10 minutes)**

As you start your group time, please be sure to discuss the following important topics listed below. This is key to keeping OneLifers informed.

### **5-Year Service – GET YOUR CORN HOLE TEAMS TOGETHER!**

It's almost time for our gigantic 5-year celebration at the University of Tennessee, and the picnic and corn hole tournament that follows! Make sure you are ahead of the game and pre-order your food – it's Back Yard Burgers – mmmmmmm.

Also, get your corn hole teams together now!

You can do all of that, and more, at [www.onelifeknox.com/five](http://www.onelifeknox.com/five). Take out your computers and phones and do it before your group is over tonight!

### **A Local Missions Opportunity For Your Home Group!**

Heiskell Community Center, just north of Powell, could use one of our home groups to help save their walking trail – specifically, they have asked us to help maintain a wooden foot bridge along the trail that needs to be cleaned, stained and sealed. If your home group is available to meet this need, contact Dylan Martin at [dylan@onelifeknox.com](mailto:dylan@onelifeknox.com)

## KEY SCRIPTURES FOR THE WEEK:

**Matthew 7:16-20 (NLT)** <sup>16</sup> You can identify them by their fruit, that is, by the way they act. Can you pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? <sup>17</sup> A good tree produces good fruit, and a bad tree produces bad fruit. <sup>18</sup> A good tree can't produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can't produce good fruit. <sup>19</sup> So every tree that does not produce good fruit is chopped down and thrown into the fire. <sup>20</sup> Yes, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions.

**Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT)** <sup>22</sup> But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

**Matthew 7:22-23 (NLT)** <sup>22</sup> On judgment day many will say to me, 'Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.' <sup>23</sup> But I will reply, 'I never knew you. Get away from me, you who break God's laws.'

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FROM HANDOUT (35 Minutes)

### Jog Your Memory:

- A company's brand represents what that company produces
- In the same way, the product of your life (your fruit) indicates what brand you are
- A good tree doesn't have to try to produce good fruit, it's just happens naturally
- In the same way, if you're saved, your life should begin to produce good spiritual fruit
- Bottom Line from the sermon: The product of my life is the result of whether or not I'm saved.

**1. Talk about your favorite brand. Why is it your favorite? Do you get defensive about this brand? How did this brand win you over? Do you encourage others to switch?**

This will ease us into the discussion, and will ultimately set up the principle from this sermon, which is the product of my life is the result of whether or not I'm really saved.

Here are some ways to make this a little fun:

- Coke or Pepsi?
- Heinz or Hunts? *We all know Heinz people are right; hunts people are weird 😊*

- Ford or Chevy? Or one of those foreign makes?
- Mac or PC?
- What products do you avoid generic brands or store brands, and why?

**2. Read Matthew 7:16-20. Talk about how a recent first impression of someone you've met influenced what you thought about them (could be funny or serious). As you got to know them, did your first impression turn out to be correct or did it change? Why or why not?**

We've already established that brands represent products and vice versa. This is why Chick-Fil-A never sends their amazing waffle fries in a catering order, because by the time they are consumed, they will be soggy and sad, and that wouldn't be in line with their brand! They are only good right out of the fryer.

We hope this question begins to lead us to see how people's actions speak louder than their words when it comes to the condition of their hearts.

Some followup questions to consider are:

- When people watching in a crowd, is it easy for you to tell what a person's life is like based on a 30 second observation? How do you think this is possible?
  - Even though our assumptions about people when people watching are off base, the principle still applies here. You're not judging the apple tree when you walk by and see it's fruit and determine that it's an apple tree.
- Is the fruit of people's lives obvious to you?
- Is the fruit of your life obvious to others?

**3. Read Galatians 5:22-23. With this verse in mind, what fruit has the Holy Spirit produced in your life? Or, what fruit do you hope the Holy Spirit develops in your life? Or, how have you seen the Holy Spirit do this in someone else?**

This question is designed to help get people to share their stories. You can help avoid the conversational ditch by asking followup questions about people's story instead of sharing one-word answers.

Some possible responses:

- I can now forgive and love the person in my life who I thought was unlovable.
- I have a god-like joy in the midst of heavy trials.
- I now have peace no matter what trials or successes are happening in my life.

**4. When a tree produces good fruit, people benefit from the fruit. Who in your life will benefit from the good fruit from your life? How can you be intentional with others in your life?**

Some examples to get the conversation going:

- Share how your current circumstance might have been different before Jesus. “I used to lose my temper in these situations before Jesus changed my life.”
- Set reminders on your phone to encourage specific people in your life (kindness).
- Be generous with people (pay for lunch, go the extra mile, do something nice that’s unexpected)

**END YOUR TIME PRAYING TOGETHER (10 Minutes)**