

HOME GROUP

Leader Guide



CAKE TOPPER
BEST DAY EVER
AUGUST 16, 2015



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.

WELCOME BACK

Beginning this week the Group Leader Guide is back! The Leader Guide is designed to make leading your group's discussion easier by giving you more in depth commentary on the sermon and giving suggestions about how to guide the discussion of each question.

The guide is available each Sunday morning before the services online at www.onelifeknox.com/leaderguide.

DUCT TAPE WORKSHOP

Each year we have "required" trainings for our volunteers to make sure we are always getting better and better at reaching those far from God! The Duct Tape Workshop conference that we are hosting on Saturday, August 29 from 9-4 at our Powell campus will serve as our volunteer training for all teams (kids, production, worship, and first impressions) for 2015!

We will pay the \$18 registration fee for you, which includes lunch! So make sure you sign up ASAP! (PS...it's going to be FUN! Basically like a Night of Worship ALL day long plus training from some incredible church leaders!)

Go to www.onelifeknox.com/ducttapesignup to sign up!

KEY SCRIPTURES FOR THE WEEK:

GALATIANS 2:20 (NLT)

My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FROM HANDOUT (35 Minutes)

1. **Describe your “best day ever!” This doesn’t necessarily need to be your spiritual story; maybe it was the day you graduated, got married, landed your dream job, first child, etc. What aspects of that day made it the best day ever? How was your life different after that experience? Did your best day ever later turn out to be different than you imagined in the beginning? How so?**

As your group connects for the first time, or reconnects from time off during the summer, use this first question to break the ice and introduce this week’s sermon topic. Don’t look at this ice breaking question as a way to teach a topic or check for comprehension; allow this question to be fun!

As we break into this topic, you’ll notice that most people describe their best day ever as an event or circumstance that benefits them primarily. But as Jesus demonstrates, our relationship with Him isn’t really about us; therefore, our best day ever isn’t really about us!

2. **In the sermon you heard the phrase “It’s not about me” quite a few times. As you have grown and matured as a person, how has life in general shifted from being all about you to “it’s not about me?” What circumstances or situations led to you learning this lesson? What was the most difficult aspect of this shift? What was surprising as you learned that “it’s not about you”?**

The goal of this question is to help people see that their best day ever wasn’t really about them! In our younger days, we would describe our best day ever as the day we benefitted greatly (accepted to our desired college, got the promotion, made the team), however as we mature, we typically describe our best day ever as events or circumstances that benefitted others, not just ourselves (our first kid was born – it’s not just about me anymore)!

Hopefully, this will get us thinking in the right direction and help us see that it is possible to experience our best day ever without it being all about us! This is definitely the case with our relationship with Jesus – which is truly our best day ever – It’s NOT ABOUT ME!

Try to bring this concept out while leading the discussion with this question! The next question will begin to explore this a little more.

3. Read Galatians 2:20. What was Paul's (the author of Galatians) BDE? For Paul, his BDE relates to "it is no longer I" and "I have been crucified." What did he mean by this? How does Ephesians 4:20-24 shed light on this? How is that different than how most of the world describes their BDE?

- "Christ lives in me" – means that you no longer have to bear the burden of creating the good life for yourself (the rat race, keeping up appearances, pleasing other people, climbing the ladder at work, etc), but you can trust fully in Jesus to supply all your needs. When you're not consumed with trying to meet your own needs and achieve the desires that benefit you primarily (It's no longer I that live), you're free to focus on following Jesus and trusting in Him fully (but Christ lives in me – he's firmly in control and supplying all my needs – I can stop worrying)
- Loving = Giving – Remind the group of this point from the sermon... When you love, you give... So, what does our giving (not even necessarily limited to our tithing or financial giving) reveal about our loving? Is it true that when we love something, we give it away?
- Ephesians 4:20-24 introduces this idea of repentance – to change the way we think about things – to think in a new way!

4. In light of this week's sermon, what was your BDE like? How is your life different because of Jesus? How could sharing your BDE story with others lead them to experience *their* BDE? Share who in your circle of friends/family the group can be praying for as you share your story and invite them to come and experience Jesus.

This is an invitation to share your spiritual story – your best day ever!! Encourage the group to share their best day ever with those they love where they live, work and play! Please close your group by praying together, specifically for someone else in the group and those that we'll be inviting to come and experience Jesus. (*Idea*: try praying for the person to your right or left)!

END YOUR TIME PRAYING TOGETHER (10 Minutes)