HOME GROUP Leader Guide



OBJECTIONS HELL YES OR HELL NO? OCTOBER 11, 2015

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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.

NIGHT OF WORSHIP

If you like Sunday morning worship at OneLife then you'll love our night of worship coming up on Wednesday night, October 21 at 6:30pm. Both campuses will join together at our Powell campus, sing songs, take communion, and hear a great message from Pastor Rodney. You don't want to miss it!

STUDENT MINISTRY RALLY AND BONFIRE

If you're a middle or high school student then come check out OneLife Students! We meet the first 3 Sunday nights of every month at 6pm at your campus. It's a great way to get to know other students and grow together spiritually. Plus, on Sunday night, October 18 we're having a Student Ministry bonfire! Both campuses will join together at our Halls location at 6pm for worship songs around the bonfire, fun and games, and a Holy Ghost Weenie Roast (yeah, that's right we said it!). Parents are invited to stay, we've got something special for you! We can't wait to see you there!

KEY SCRIPTURES FOR THE WEEK:

LUKE 16:19-28 (NLT)

¹⁹ Jesus said, "There was a certain rich man who was splendidly clothed in purple and fine linen and who lived each day in luxury. ²⁰ At his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus who was covered with sores. ²¹ As Lazarus lay there longing for scraps from the rich man's table, the dogs would come and lick his open sores.

²² "Finally, the poor man died and was carried by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried, ²³ and his soul went to the place of the dead. There, in torment, he saw Abraham in the far distance with Lazarus at his side.

²⁴ "The rich man shouted, 'Father Abraham, have some pity! Send Lazarus over here to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue. I am in anguish in these flames. '

²⁵ "But Abraham said to him, 'Son, remember that during your lifetime you had everything you wanted, and Lazarus had nothing. So now he is here being comforted, and you are in anguish. ²⁶ And besides, there is a great chasm separating us. No one can cross over to you from here, and no one can cross over to us from there. '

²⁷ "Then the rich man said, 'Please, Father Abraham, at least send him to my father's home. ²⁸ For I have five brothers, and I want him to warn them so they don't end up in this place of torment

2 PETER 3:9 (NLT)

⁹ The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FROM HANDOUT (35 Minutes)

Jog Your Memory:

Bottom Line: Hell shows the balance of God's perfect justice and perfect love.

- 1. Hell is a place of unspeakable anguish.
- 2. Hell God's righteous punishment for those who don't follow Christ.
- 3. Hell is unchangeable separation from God.
- 4. A reason to share Jesus.

1. What activities (hiking, biking, golf, etc.) do you enjoy here on earth that you hope you'll also get to do in heaven? How might that activity be better in heaven?

As your group time begins, use this question to get everybody talking! Even though we're talking about Hell in the main part of the discussion, we're opening up with a fun discussion of heaven! This should get folks thinking and talking about heaven *and* hell!

- 2. Read Matthew 7:13. This passage says that the gate to heaven is *narrow*. How could someone who is choosing the easy way be deceived into believing they were going to heaven? What do you think are some common misconceptions about heaven? What are some common misconceptions about hell? How is hell portrayed in television and movies? Do the depictions of hell ever make it feel like a real place?
- 3. Read Hebrews 3:14-19. Why does Jesus require a speedy response ("<u>Today</u> when you hear his voice...")? How does a person's response to Jesus affect their standing with Him in heaven or hell? Explain. What does this mean for those of us who know his voice and have responded? What should we do with this verse?

In order to really experience God's grace, we have to first see just how desperate our situation is. Whether we realize it or not, all of us are in great danger apart from Jesus; both here on earth (because we're spiritually dead) and then once we die (just think about the rich man's experience).

4. How do you typically talk about hell? Do you try to avoid the topic? Explain. Why should Hell be a motivation for believers to multiply their faith in others? How can a healthy understanding of Hell help you present God's perfect love to others?

In our culture, it's often considered rude, presumptive and arrogant to discuss Hell. It's so uncomfortable to think about eternal separation from God, that we tend to minimize this truth. But, Hell is important, not only as a warning for us, but as a motivation to *not let <u>anyone</u> end up there.*

5. Read Luke 16:27-31. Why did the rich man insist that Abraham send Lazarus to his brothers? According to Abraham's word to the rich man in hell, how can people learn instructions and warnings about life, repentance, and restoration?

We always want to end our discussions asking ourselves the question "now what?" We've discussed the reality of Hell, but now we need to discuss what we'll do with this reality, and how it'll change us! One of the most important ways that people can understand how much God loves us is to read His word! The rich man wanted his brothers, who still had a chance to repent, to hear the good news of the Gospel! So, encourage your group to feel the urgency of the Gospel – the good news of Jesus – and to share it with the people around them where they live, work and play!

END YOUR TIME PRAYING TOGETHER (10 Minutes)

LEADER TIPS:

Midway throughout this week, send a follow-up email or text message to your group with some or all of the following

- Questions to consider as they continue to reflect on what they learned this week:
 - Are you living in a way that points people to Jesus?
 - Who is someone you are praying for to know Jesus? Who is one person that you're called to spend more time with this week just so they can be around a follower of Jesus?
- A note of encouragement, following up on specific prayer requests mentioned during your group gathering