

Cell Group Lesson: Living Faithfully

ICE BREAKER: Who was your best friend, when you were growing up?

Facilitator's Comments: We strive to be faithful in our 'walk with the Lord.' Faithful in our actions and faithful in our lifestyle. Let's read some definitions of the word "faithful."

Read

Definitions of the word "faithful": 1) having an unwavering belief in something or somebody. 2) being consistently loyal and trustworthy to a person, promise, duty or cause.

Facilitator's Comments: God is not asking us to be something He isn't. God's faithful to His people, as shown in Deuteronomy 7:9, let's read this wonderful verse:

Read

Deuteronomy 7:9 - "Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments; (NKJV)

Question: How does God show us His faithfulness towards us?

Answer: He never leaves us, never forsakes us, never sleeps, never slumbers, is an ever present help in times of trouble, and He said that He will be with us, until the end of the world.

Facilitator's Comments: God's faithfulness to us is everlasting, as we continually love Him and keep His commandments. Let's read about God's response to those that are faithful to Him, in Proverbs 28:20.

Read

Proverbs 28:20 - "A faithful man will abound with blessings." (NKJV)

Question: Why does God respond to those that are faithful to Him with blessings?

Answer: God responds and rewards faithfulness, because it expresses love for Him and a desire to please Him.

Facilitator's Comments: Psalms 31:23 presents another blessing for those that are faithful to him..

Read

Psalms 31:23 - Oh, love the LORD, all you His saints! For the LORD preserves the faithful, And fully repays the proud person. (NKJV)

Question: Can you recall a time when the Lord preserved and kept you from harm, illness or suffering?

Answer: *Get answers from the group*

Facilitator's Comments: How we live for Christ is shown by the display of the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. Let's read Galatians 5:22.

Read

Galatians 5:22 - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, **faithfulness**, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. 24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. (NKJV)

Question: Why do we need the Spirit, in our lives, to live faithfully?

Answer: In our fallen, human nature we **can't** begin to live faithfully for the Lord, but by allowing His Spirit to work in and through our lives, we now have the resource necessary to live an overcoming life in Christ Jesus.

Question: What are some of the things in our lives that cause us to battle with being faithful to the Lord?

Answer: Not keeping God as our first priority, cares of this life, and temptations.

Facilitator's Comments: Let's read our 1st Commentary...

Read

1st Commentary:

For us to belong to Christ, we need to crucify our flesh, with its passions and desires. Our passions and desires can selfishly draw us away from being faithful to God and into doing things that are pleasing in our own eyes. But when we continue to 'crucify' our flesh, through prayer and fasting, we become more faithful to the Lord and His Spirit will shine even more in our lives, drawing others to us with a desire to want to know why we are so faithful in our walk with the Lord and have such peace.

Facilitator's Comments: God knows we battle with our flesh and our desire to be faithful, so He helps us as seen in 1 Corinthians 10:13, let's read it and give thanks for God's help and mercy..

Read

1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it. (NKJV)

Question: What does this verse mean when it says that God will "*make the way of escape*" when we are tempted to do things that are 'unfaithful' in our walk with the Lord?

Answer: 1) God will provide a way of escape so that we don't have to fall.

2) We know that we now have a choice, give in or take the way of escape.

Question: Why do we sometimes avoid the "way of escape" instead avoiding the temptation?

Answer: We rationalize our desires and wants, even if they are against the Word of God.

Question: Why does God even allow temptations into our lives.

Answer: 1) One reason is that you don't know how faithful you are until your faithfulness is tested.

2) Once you know our current "faithfulness-level", you can make adjustments and corrections in your life and strengthen your weak areas, with God's help.

Facilitator's Comments: We read, in Daniel 6:10, Daniel response when he was faced with being thrown into the Lion's Den if he prayed to God....

Read

Daniel 6:10 - Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and **prayed and gave thanks** before his God, as was his custom since early days. (NKJV)

Question: How did Daniel show his faithfulness to the Lord, even in the face of death?

Answer: He prayed and gave thanks

Question: When did Daniel start his faithfulness to God, in the verse we just read?

Answer: the Bible says "as was his custom since early days."

Facilitator's Comments: Daniel built a life of faithfulness, since his youth. It just didn't start when he was facing death. We need to stay faithful and strong, because we never know when we will be tested.

Facilitator's Comments: It's not always easy to live for God, but it's worth it! Let's read our last scripture for this lesson, found in Revelation 2:10..

Read

Revelation 2:10 - Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: **be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.** (KJV)

Facilitator's Comments: No matter what happens in this life to us, it doesn't compare to the crown of life that our faithful God has for those that overcome and are faithful to Him.

Let's stand and give thank to the Lord for His faithfulness and faithfully recommit every area of our lives to Him.

Reading Material for Cell Group Lesson: Living Faithfully

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