

LEADER PAGE |SERIES| Heaven on Earth | WEEK 5 of 6 | Sermon date: September 19, 2021

<u>Discipleship Phrase</u>: His kingdom over mine. <u>Big Idea for Series</u>: On earth as it is in Heaven.

<u>Abiding</u> (grow as a disciple yourself)

It is often revealing how some of the littlest things become big things in our life. This week spend time with God to identify those areas in your life that cause you pain and cause you to hold back in your relationship with Him and others. In this time of reflection, it is good to reflect how Ephesians 4:31-32 states our approach to those things that come up regularly. How can you "be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you"? It is important to keep healthy boundaries and also be open to forgive.

<u>Leading</u> (facilitate your group effectively)

Spend time this week before you meet praying through and thinking about the "little things" in your life that have transformed into something much bigger. Have you turned something into a mountain that was once a molehill; and if so, how did that happen? What were/are the steps you take to work through and find emotional/spiritual health on the opposite side of controversy and/or hurt? Often, it's the little hurts we endure over our lifetime that become the essence of our story; when we leave those harmful pieces untouched, they can and will do damage. Be ready to hop in with both feet as you lead through this topic, it's a game-changer and you...set the tone.

Shepherding (know, feed, lead, and protect the sheep)

As you walk with your group members this week talking through the little things that often morph into bigger things, be extra aware of the words and body language used in discussion. Moving into a space where you begin to recognize and then try to identify and name a trigger is sacred space, please treat it as such. Be ready to listen well and available to engage with and answer some challenging questions. Be available to share from a space of vulnerability an example (or two) of opportunities you've that allowed you space to identify/name a "little thing" and how you worked towards healing.

<u>Church Announcements</u> (be in the know & share with your group)
Save the date! Life Group Leader Workshop October 3rd from 10 AM-12 PM. More details to come!

REMEMBER: "Every group deserves a great leader



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Welcome/Introductions (creating a relational environment starts here; be friendly & acknowledge everyone)

Open in Prayer (kickoff every group gathering with honoring the Lord)

Ice Breaker, God Moments, or Highs & Lows (choose one that is best for your group this week)

Weekly Vision Checklist (See Flipbook re: announcements, the "why", goal, outreach, guidelines, & branching)

Ask a Hook Question (a thought-provoking question to get the group heading in the right direction)
What's your biggest "pet peeve?"

Recap the Message (ask a **couple** people to share what stood out to them in this week's message)

Scriptures References (Read scriptures directly from the Bible—it carries its own authority)
Matthew 6:9-13 (ESV), Acts 21:37-39 (ESV), Proverbs 26:11 (ESV), Titus 3:10 (ESV), Luke 12:13-14 (ESV),
Ephesians 4:31-32 (ESV)

Implications (takeaways from the message)

- 1. We usually aren't taken out by major issues we need to forgive. We are taken out by a million little wounds that never fully healed.
- 2. It's okay to set boundaries for the emotional and spiritual health of the people on both sides of a conflict.
- 3. Forgiveness is a determination that the pain stops here.
- 4. Naming and being honest about unresolved hurts begins the process of moving past them.

Discussion Questions (going beyond the surface)

- 1. Using Ephesians 4:31-32 as a backdrop, talk about some behaviors and/or words used or said by others that "irk" you.
- 2. What are some of the "little pains" that have been ongoing/recurring throughout your life?
- 3. For the "little hurts" you revealed, what are the things you do, or how you react when they occur?
- 4. Who can you "tap on the shoulder" that could potentially help you take the next step and/or heal by asking good questions? Is this a counselor, trusted friend, family member or friend?

Prayer Requests (record, share, and follow up throughout the week. Use the LEAD App or CCB if possible.)

Closing Prayer (ask openly for a volunteer, encourage your people to step outside of their comfort zone regularly