

LEADER PAGE | Acts | WEEK 4 of 30 | Sermon date: January 23, 2022

<u>Discipleship Phrase</u>: God's church, God's way.

Big Idea for Series: God's church is built on His principles.

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

This week, spend some time reflecting what life was like before you followed Christ. How did you feel when you were not close with God? It is important that we don't forget what it is was like to be lost and how God is changing you. In our sermon this week, we see that God invites us to be part of His story. In your time with God this week, make note of the times God has impacted your life and how you got to be part of what He was doing. Pray for a heart of thankfulness and eyes to recognize that God is always working and wants you to continually be part of building His kingdom.

Leading (facilitate your group effectively)

This week we'll be sharing some "8 Minute Testimonies". What exactly is that? It's a time to share testimonies (how we came to faith, how & where God met us). We're not sharing every detail, just hitting some highlights with real meaning. Consider the story of the Samaritan woman at the well in John 4. After meeting with Jesus, she says in verse 29, "Come see a man who told me all that I ever did!" Jesus didn't tell her "everything", just the things that she believed identified her. That said, during this section of group you, as the leader, should share first so that you can model what this looks like. Basically, you just want to share some intimate details around your faith journey being honest and vulnerable. Stay within the 8 minutes and encourage others to do the same. Listen with genuine curiosity and encourage your entire group to ask a few good follow up questions for clarity which shows you're listening and comminates care. Be mindful that everyone won't be able to share this time, therefore, as a good shepherd, invite those who need to share to speak up this week.

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

As the shepherd of your group, the information shared during our 8 Minute Testimonies will be open and transparent. Be mindful to take notes (mental or physical) of what your group members are saying. What is shared this week should allow for you to have a deeper and more intimate knowledge of the people in your group. Carry this knowledge with you throughout this life group season and leverage it as God prompts you. This is a good "baseline" to determine spiritual health and will allow you to point out areas of growth you see in your people throughout the year.

Church Announcements (be in the know & share with your group)

Prayer and Worship night is February 6th from 6:30-8 PM. Come as a group! It's sure to be a powerful night!

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) If you only had 8 minutes to spend anyway you'd like, how would you spend it?

Recap the Message (ask a <u>couple</u> 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)

Acts 3:1-26, Psalm **51:7-12 (ESV),** Genesis **12:1-3 (ESV),** Exodus **7:1-7 (ESV),** Deuteronomy 18:15-19 (ESV), **John** 1:20-22 (ESV), **1 Corinthians** 12:12-13 (ESV)

Implications (takeaways from the message)

- 1. Apart from God, Peter and John do not have any special power; they are obedient and God does the work.
- 2. Don't overcomplicate your faith. Never forget what it feels like to be lost. This is why testimony is important.
- 3. God is looking for a body; he has invited us to be a part of it.

Discussion Questions (going beyond the surface)

This week we invite you to share an 8 minute testimony about you and your testimony. For more information on what that is please see the "Leading," section on the leader page.

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)