

Challenging students to embrace their personal mission field.

MISSION | TIER 2 DISCIPLESHIP | Matt 22:1-14

Jan 12, 2020

DISCUSSION GUIDE :: AT A GLANCE



INFORMAL: (8 minutes)

Take attendance with the LEAD App and ask guests to complete a connection card. Allow for informal conversation with your group but be prepped to transition. REVIEW Memory Verse (Hebrews 4:14). Can anyone quote Hebrews 4:12-14?



INTRODUCTION: (7 minutes)

OPENING QUESTIONS: What do you think of when you think of missions? What are your thoughts when asked, "What is your personal mission field?"

EXPLAIN: We will use the DIG Method to examine a parable of Jesus. WHAT is a parable? was a story Jesus used to illustrate truths He was teaching.

PRAY: Ask the Holy Spirit to open our hearts to desire, see, understand, & live the truth.

READ: Matthew 22:1-14 out loud and then GIVE the provided explanation.



DISCOVER - Asking Who, What, Where, or When (1 min)

This parable is about the Kingdom of Heaven. We will only focus on a few things in this parable. There is a king. He was giving a wedding feast for his son. He used his servants to invite people to the wedding feast.



INVESTIGATE - Asking Why or How (4 min)

WHO does the king represent in this parable? The wedding feast? The son? The servants? WHAT is this parable describing?



GO - Asking Questions That Require Action (4 min)

REVISIT the role of the servants: WHAT did the servants do? Then READ 2 Corinthians 4:5 HOW does 2 Corinthians 4:5 help us understand the role of the servants?

If we are His servants, WHAT is our mission based upon Matt 22:1-14 & 2 Corinthians 4:5?



ACTIVITY: 2 Parts (15 min)

PART 1: HOW can you INVITE, PROCLAIM, & DISPLAY Jesus? Be specific!

WHAT is your mission field? (Where do you live, go to school/work, play/activities?)

THINK of one person that you'll intentionally pray for, invite, proclaim, & display Jesus.

PART 2: Encourage students to download the app, Life On Mission. As a small group watch the video demonstration (3 min long).



COMMUNITY & CONCLUSION (10 min)

CLOSING QUESTIONS: Related to this morning's DIG study & the activity... How can we pray/encourage you this week? How can we hold you accountable this week? Close in prayer.

January's Memory Verse

Hebrews 4:14

Provided Supplies

Who's Your One
Card



Sermon Connection

Today's
Discussion will be
based upon on
Owen's Message.



Emmaus Connection

When a
connection is
being made to
our discussion we
will outline that
here.

DISCUSSION GUIDE :: EXPANDED

INFORMAL: (8 minutes)

Take ATTENDANCE with the LEAD App.

Ask GUESTS to complete a CONNECTION card. Find ways to learn about the guest.

Allow for informal CONVERSATION but be prepped to TRANSITION to allow time for Bible discussion & community. REVIEW this month's Memory Verse (Hebrews 4:13).

INTRODUCTION: (7 minutes)

OPENING QUESTION: What do you think of when you think of missions? What are your thoughts when asked, "What is your personal mission field?"?

- *Their answers may vary. Many students may be familiar with missionaries and mission trips but potentially very few see themselves as a missionary. We want to challenge students to recognize that "missions" for them is not a "someday" type of thing in their lives, but a "today" reality. They currently have a mission field before them, and we want to help them see that.*

EXPLAIN: We will use the DIG Method to examine a parable of Jesus. Remind them that a parable was a story Jesus used to illustrate truths He was teaching.

PRAY: Ask the Holy Spirit to open our hearts to desire, see, understand, and live the truth.

- *We never want to approach God's Word like we approach books we read for school/learning. We are not merely acquiring information. We are encountering words that are alive and change people through the power of the Holy Spirit. Let's position ourselves in humility and ask God for His help and to transform us!*

READ: Matthew 22:1-14 out loud then share the following explanation. some background.

Matthew 22:1-14 *Thus And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, 2 "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, 3 and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. 4 Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast."' 5 But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, 6 while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. 7 The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. 8 Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. 9 Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.' 10 And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests. 11 "But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. 12 And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. 13 Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' 14 For many are called, but few are chosen."*

EXPLANATION: This parable is complex and has many details that can be explored. Owen is preaching on this parable this morning, and we will rely on him for the bigger picture of this parable. We, however, are going to focus in on a very specific part of the parable. That being said, we are going to "give" the DISCOVER or observational information to you so that we can ask investigative questions specific to this information and spend the majority of our time on application today.

DISCOVER - Asking Who, What, Where, or When (4 min)

Here are a few things we can observe from this parable that we want to focus on today... This parable is about the Kingdom of Heaven. There is a king. He was giving a wedding feast for his son. He used his servants to invite people to the wedding feast.

INVESTIGATE - Asking Why or How (4 min)

WHO does the king represent in this parable? The wedding feast? The son? The servants?

- 1) The king represents God the Father. 2) The wedding feast represents enjoying fellowship with God in His kingdom, and coming to the feast represents entering the kingdom. 3) The son is Jesus Christ. 4) The servants represents those sent out to invite other people to come enjoy fellowship with God in His kingdom. The servants are those who are trusting Jesus for salvation and submitting to Him as their authority.

WHAT is this parable describing?

- Again this parable has many layers, but ultimately, God is throwing a party to celebrate His goodness and He wants to use His people to invite people to come.

GO - Asking Questions That Require Action (4 min)

REVISIT the role of the servants: WHAT did the servants do? Then READ 2 Corinthians 4:5.

- The servants carried the message of the invitation to those that were invited.
- 2 Corinthians 4:5 "For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake."

HOW does 2 Corinthians 4:5 help us understand the role of the servants and ours?

- The servants went with the message of the king, not their own. The confession of 2 Corinthians 4:5 likewise states that what they proclaim is not themselves but Jesus Christ as Lord--and they are His servants for Jesus' sake.

If we are His servants, WHAT is our mission based upon Matt 22:1-14 & 2 Corinthians 4:5?

- As his servants, our mission is to take the invitation of the Gospel to people and proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord.

ACTIVITY: 2 PARTS (15 min)

PART ONE

HOW can you INVITE, PROCLAIM, & DISPLAY Jesus? Be specific!

WHAT is your mission field? (Where do you live, go to school/work, play/activities?)

THINK of one person that you will intentionally pray for, invite, proclaim, & display Jesus to this year.

- Pass out the provided cards and have students write the name of their "one" on the back.
- Use the provided handout to write down everyone's "one". Display it in your room or put it in your class tray to pull it out and pray for them each week. At the end of small group time pray for the list of names.

PART TWO

***ENCOURAGER NOTES: As a way to equip students in proclaiming Jesus we want to model, mentor, and create a safe space for them to practice sharing the Gospel. That being the case, over the following weeks we will start spending 2-3 minutes each week sharing the Gospel in class. An encourager will**

model a different way to share the Gospel each week in small group, and we will provide materials/resources for students to have for learning these methods. We will ask encouragers to come alongside each student in class and help them memorize a way to share the Gospel.

We will transition to asking a different student to share the Gospel each week in class. This means we will need to consistently provide time and space in our small group time for a student (who knows it is his/her turn) to share the Gospel in 2-3 minutes. The hope is that we help students become very familiar with articulating the truths of the Gospel, and we give them an opportunity to practice over and over.

SUMMARIZE & SHARE the above info with your small group. (Remind them this isn't about a performance or test, but about helping them learn how to share their faith in a safe space.)

If it's conducive to your group WATCH the "3 Circles" method that Owen often shares with our church.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WF0Cuenw5UA>

ENCOURAGE students to download the Life On Mission App. (the video can be viewed through the app.)

COMMUNITY & CONCLUSION (10 min)

CLOSING QUESTIONS: Related to this morning's DIG study or other spiritual struggles... How can we **pray** for you? How can we **encourage** you this week? How can we hold you **accountable** this week?

- Please use the above questions & **refrain** from stating, "Does anyone have any prayer requests?" This is too general & doesn't ask the student directly about spiritual issues. Until your group develops greater community invite students to connect with you individually.

PRAY: Spend time in prayer as a group.

- This will depend upon the life of your small group and the willingness of the individuals. A big win would be that everyone gets prayed for and every person prays. However, if your group isn't there yet take small baby steps throughout the year.

ENCOURAGE: Pray for each other & check in with each other for encouragement & accountability.

- As the adult encourager set the tone and be the lead prayer warrior this week. Give them an example to follow by checking in with your small group via text, GroupMe, or whatever means your small group has adopted for regular communication.

POST SMALL GROUP STUDENT CONNECTION

CONNECT: With your small group or the students as individuals this week by...

- Create a jpg (picture) through YouVersion App for the verse Matthew 22:9-10 and share it with your small group.
- If students are going to embrace the mission of God by proclaiming and displaying Jesus it is going to happen partly because of your encouragement. Your willingness to pray for your students and help them in this area is a major influence in their life.