

Study Guide #3 - (Leader's Guide): K-group Bible Study for Week of September 24, 2017

Title of Scripture Passage: Jesus Time Alone with God

Lesson Overview: As Jesus launched his public ministry, he became instantly popular with great crowds coming to him with great needs and great expectations that Jesus would meet those needs. Jesus spent his time healing the sick and preaching the Gospel and teaching his disciples to do the same. In the midst of his crazy, hectic, and busy life, he often withdrew to lonely places to pray, thus giving us an example for our own lives. Perhaps Jesus was letting us in on his secret for a successful ministry and for a successful life.

Luke 5:1-16 (NIV)

5 One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. ² He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. ³ He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch."

⁵ Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."

⁶ When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. ⁷ So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

⁸ When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" ⁹ For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, ¹⁰ and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners.

Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." ¹¹ So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

5:12-14pp—Mt 8:2-4; Mk 1:40-44

¹² While Jesus was in one of the towns, a man came along who was covered with leprosy. When he saw Jesus, he fell with his face to the ground and begged him, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."

¹³ Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" And immediately the leprosy left him.

¹⁴ Then Jesus ordered him, "Don't tell anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them."

¹⁵ Yet the news about him spread all the more, so that crowds of people came to hear him and to be healed of their sicknesses. ¹⁶ But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.

*Start the lesson by listening to one of your K-group members verbalize the scripture passage in a conversational style (keep bible's closed and encourage the story teller not to use notes but to simply share from the heart)

* Once the story has been told, have everyone open their bibles to Luke 5:1-16.

Questions

- Ask, “Before we dig into this study, we need to clarify the facts of the story. Was there anything added or deleted that we need to note?” (Remember to affirm the story teller, but also be sure to clarify what the scripture actually says)
- What part of this story resonated with you the most and why?
- Our key text for today’s lesson is Luke 5:16. Based on the surrounding context, what can we learn about Jesus’ regular practice of this spiritual discipline? (Note: Notice how busy Jesus was during this time in his ministry and life – healing, preaching, teaching the disciples. The more we have to do, the more important it is that we prepare for our work by devoted prayer and time with God.)
- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about ourselves (man)?
- What does this passage teach us about being a disciple of Jesus Christ?
- Are there some related bible passages that we should consider as we ponder the ramifications of this lesson? (You might explore some of the other passages in Luke’s Gospel where Jesus prayed. Examples include Luke 3:21; 6:12-13; 9:18; 9:28-29; 11:1; 22:40-46; 23:34, 46. Ask, what can we learn about Jesus’ prayer life from these passages?)
- Practically speaking, in order for us to follow Jesus example and have a consistent Quiet Time, one must have three things: 1) A Time (morning is preferable (see Psalm 5:3, 59:16, 88:13, 90:14, 143:8), 2) A Place, and 3) A Plan. Which of these three seems to be the biggest challenge for you in having a consistent Quiet Time with God? As a group, brainstorm ways to overcome these challenges?
- Introduce the Quiet Time Challenge. Show the group the sign-up sheet and emphasize that this is “challenge by choice” meaning it is 100% optional. Do stress, however, that if they take the challenge, they need to fulfill it. Also, make sure that they know that they are committing to having their leaders (K-group leaders and/or pastors) provide accountability. Once you explain this, pass around the “Quiet Time Challenge Sign-up Sheet.”

Close with prayer. Pray specifically that the group can follow through with what God has put on their hearts to do.

