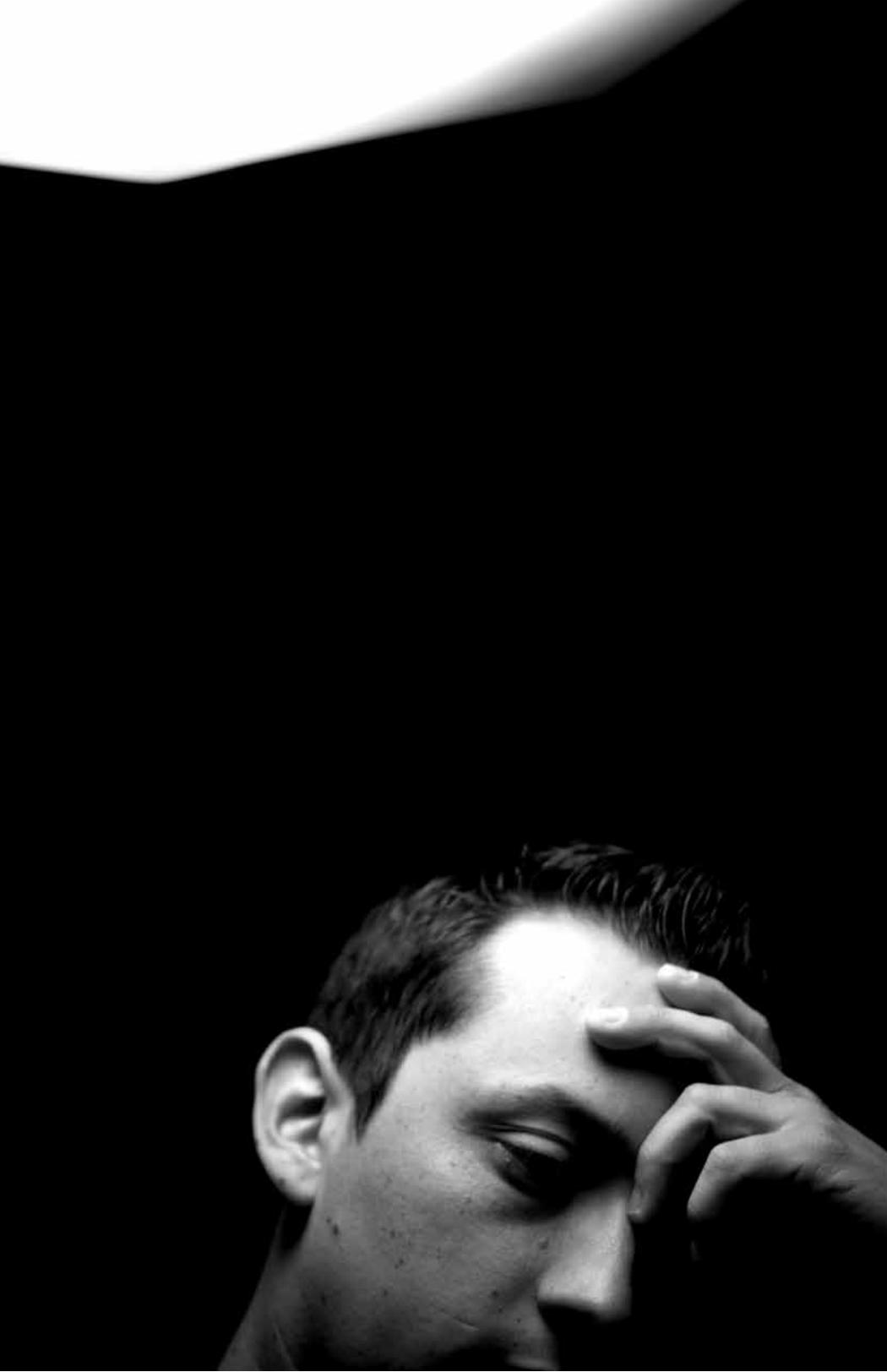


I AM SECOND™

Jesus
also says



Jesus Also Says 4.0

How to be a better Second by doing what Jesus also says.

Welcome

Jesus healed. Jesus loved. Jesus made peace. And Jesus taught his followers to do the same. Here in *Jesus Also Says* you will find more of what Jesus says we should do and believe.

A follower of Jesus talks with God, he remembers what Jesus has done, he gives, and he passes on what he knows to others. Learn to do the same in your life. Read on and discover for yourself what else Jesus said.

All of what Jesus told us to do can be summarized in seven basic commands. These commands are covered in the two I am Second discussion guides entitled *Jesus Says* and *Jesus Also Says*.

3.1 Talk with God	2
3.2 Remember Jesus.	6
3.3 Give	10
3.4 Pass it on	14

Leader's Guide

How to lead your I am Second Group	18
Helps	20

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Talk with God

Opener

Watch: one of the “What’s prayer all about?” videos

Question: What did you find helpful about this video?

Talk with God

Jesus taught his followers how to talk with God. You have heard his teachings on this topic before. But as a review and as another chance to talk with God as a group, go through this topic again.

Briefly discuss each section of Jesus’ prayer, then as a group or with partners talk with God following Jesus’ example.



Relationship “This is how you should pray, ‘Our Father, who is in heaven,’”
— Jesus (Matthew 6:9)

Jesus begins his prayer with a word about relationship, “Our Father.” How has God related to you lately? Take a moment to tell God how you appreciate your relationship with him. Thank him for being a good Father, friend or counselor.



Worship “May your name be honored as holy” — Jesus (Matthew 6:9)

Jesus recognizes God for his holiness. What is something you love or appreciate about God? Spend some time telling God what you love most about him.



Surrender “Have your kingdom come, have your will be done as it is in heaven so also on earth” — Jesus (Matthew 6:10)

Jesus does not ask for his own desires but for the will of God to be done. What is the biggest worry or problem you are dealing with right now? What in your life do you need to surrender? Tell God your commitment to trust him in these areas of your life.



Ask “Give us today our daily bread” — Jesus (Matthew 6:11)

Jesus asks God to supply his needs. What are your needs? Take turns sharing with the group about a big need that you have today. After each person shares his need, someone else in the group should ask God to help with that need. Take a minute right now to do this.



Forgive “Forgive us our debts, as we also forgive those indebted to us” — Jesus (Matthew 6:12)

This is both a request and a commitment. The request is for God to forgive you of your wrongs. The commitment is for you to forgive others for having wronged you. That means there are two steps for you take. First, you need to apologize to God for the things you have done wrong. Take some time to do this right now.

Second, consider how you can begin forgiving those who have wronged you. Is there someone in your I am Second Group that you need to forgive? Someone in your family? An old friend? What can you do to begin the process of forgiveness?



Protect “And do not lead us into temptation but deliver us from the evil one.” — Jesus (Matthew 6:13)

Jesus taught his followers to pray for protection from temptation and the evil one. Jesus taught that there are unseen spiritual forces at work in this world. Some of them are obviously good such as God himself and his angels. But others are evil, such as the demons and their ruler who has different names, such as Lucifer, Satan, the evil one, the ruler of the kingdom of the air, etc. Ask God to protect you and your group from temptation and the evil one.



Worship “For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.”
— Jesus (Matthew 6:13)

You can end your talk with God the same way you began it, by telling God how much you appreciate who he is and what he has done. Take a minute or two to do this right now.



Live and Tell

1. What will you do now? Based on today's time in prayer, how will your life change, how specifically are you going to live out what you learned today?
2. Who will you tell? Who do you know that would be interested in learning how to talk with God?

Remember Jesus 4.2

Opener

Question: What has God been teaching you lately? Share with the group something you have learned lately about yourself, God, or life.

Check-Up

Live and tell. The last time you met you discussed talking with God. How have you lived that out? Do you talk with God as Jesus taught when you are not with your I am Second Group? Have you taught someone else how to talk with God? (If everyone in the group has not followed through with their Live and Tell commitments, consider not doing this lesson but instead going over the previous one again until everyone has followed through with what they have committed to do.)

Talk with God



Worship. Tell God something you appreciate about him.



Forgive. Ask God to forgive you for the wrongs you have done. If there is someone in your group that you need to forgive or apologize to, take a few moments right now and make things right.

Hear the Bible *Read this as a Group*

And he [Jesus] took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them [the disciples], saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."

Luke 22:19-20



For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.

Background

1. Fallen Asleep- Paul uses this phrase as a euphemism to refer to death. English speakers use euphemisms like "pass away," "breath your last," or "expire" to refer to death in a softer, more polite way. In Paul's day using the phrase "fallen asleep" was considered the polite and empathetic way to refer to death.

Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment on themselves. That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep.¹ But if we were more discerning with regard to ourselves, we would not come under such judgment. Nevertheless, when we are judged in this way by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be finally condemned with the world.

Paul of Tarsus, The First letter to the Corinthians 11:23-3

Talk about the Bible Reading

What it says

1. What did you like about these readings?
2. What did you not like or find confusing about these readings?

What it means

3. What do these readings teach about people? What did Jesus ask his followers to do? What were his followers supposed to remember?
4. What do these readings teach about God?

Live and Tell

5. What will you do now? Followers of Jesus have been meeting together remembering Jesus' death by eating bread and drinking wine (or its non-alcoholic equivalent) together since the time of Jesus. Consider taking some time right now to do the same as a group. Share some bread to remember the body of Jesus that was broken and some wine (or juice) to remember the blood that was spilled for your sins.
6. Who will you tell? Today you remembered Jesus and all he has done. Who do you know that needs to hear about Jesus? Consider sharing your story and the story of Jesus with three people from your list of 50 before your next meeting.

Give

Opener

Watch: the Blake Mankin video

Question: What was interesting or inspiring to you about Blake's story?

Check-Up

The last time you met you talked about remembering Jesus' death by eating and drinking together. What have you done to apply that discussion to your life? Did you follow through with your commitment to share Jesus with someone else? (If everyone in the group has not followed through with their Live and Tell commitments, consider not doing this lesson, but instead going over the previous one again until everyone has followed through with their commitments.)

Talk with God



Worship. What is something that God has been doing in your life that you can thank him for?



Ask. Share with the group something in your life that you have been worrying about. Ask God to work out these situations.



Surrender. As you are talking with God about these concerns, tell him that in the end what you really want for these situations is for God to work out things the way he sees best. Decide to trust God and to try to stop worrying.

Hear the Bible *Read this as a Group*

In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "

Acts 20:35 (TNIV)



All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles¹ continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"), sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

Acts 4:32-37 (TNIV)

Background

1. Apostles- An apostle is one who is sent to speak with authority, very similar to an ambassador. In those days, if a king needed to send a representative to sign a treaty he would appoint someone to be an apostle. This apostle would then have the authority to speak on behalf of the king. The closest followers of Jesus were called apostles. They were the closest and most trusted followers of Jesus and when Jesus returned to heaven they took on the leadership of Jesus' followers.

Talk about the Bible Reading

What it says

1. What did you like about this story? Why did Barnabas get a new name? Would you have liked to have him as a friend? Why or why not?
2. What did you not like or find confusing about this story?

What it means

3. What does this story teach about people? How should the things you own and the money you make be viewed in light of what you learned?
4. What does this story teach about God?

Live and Tell

5. What will you do now? Is there anything in your life that needs to change so that you can be more giving?
6. Who will you tell? With whom could you have a spiritual conversation about today's story and the need to be generous?

Pass it on

Opener

Question: Who has been the most influential person in your life? Why?

Check-Up

Live and tell. The last time you met you talked about giving. What specifically did you do to live out what you learned in that discussion? Who did you tell about what you learned in that discussion? (If everyone in the group has not followed through with their Live and Tell commitments, consider not doing this lesson and instead go over the previous one again until everyone is obeying what they are learning.)

Talk with God



Worship. What is the biggest thing that God has done in your life in recent weeks? Share your story with the group and then thank God for all he has done.



Ask. Ask God to teach you as you discuss the Bible.

Hear the Bible *Read this as a Group*

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Matthew 23:18-20

And the things you [Timothy] have heard me [Paul] say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others...

You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, persecutions, sufferings—what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me



from all of them. In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evildoers and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it....

Paul in the second letter to his close disciple Timothy 2:2, 3:10-14

Talk about the Bible Reading

What it says

1. What did you like about these readings? How did Paul obey what Jesus said to do?
2. What did you not like or find confusing about these readings?

What it means

3. What do these readings teach about people? What do these readings teach about the need to pass on to others what you learn about God?
4. What do these readings teach about God?

Live and Tell

5. What will you do now? Based on today's discussion, how will your life change, how specifically are you going to live out what you learned today?
6. Who will you tell? With whom could you have a spiritual conversation about today's discussion?

Jesus Says showed you the basics of Jesus' teaching. *Jesus Also Says* gives you the rest. A follower of Jesus talks with God, he remembers what Jesus has done, he gives, and he passes on what he knows to others. Learn to do the same in your life.

How to lead your I am Second group

This I am Second discussion guide is about much more than knowledge. It is about changed lives. It is about discovering truth. It is about people becoming free. It is about being Second. Keep in mind the following tips:

Talk with God. Leading this group is a big job, so ask God to help you. Talking to God is a simple step that often is overlooked. You are only on your own when you neglect to ask God for help.

Be Authentic. Do not be fake or shallow or use churchy words. Be yourself. Model to your group that an I am Second Group is a place where honesty and acceptance are normal and expected. Be transparent about your own pains and problems. Dare to be vulnerable. Ask tough questions that will encourage your group to do the same.

Keep it a Discussion. This is a place for people to discuss things, not a time for you to practice your public speaking skills. Allow people time to truly wrestle with what the Bible says without forcing an answer. Do not derail the discussion by supplying all the answers or providing your own commentary. People better understand, more readily accept, and more effectively apply God's Word when they discover the answers themselves.

OK Not to Know Answers. You are not expected to know all the answers. When you don't know something, admit it. Ask someone in the group to research the answer before the next meeting, or volunteer to find it yourself.

Keep Focused. Each lesson has a main idea. As the group discusses, ask yourself, "Have we talked about the main things?" If, during the discussions, the group misses the main idea, keep probing. Save your own comments for the end.

Don't Skip Parts. Every part is important, especially the "Live and Tell" and "Check-up" discussions. If people have not done what they committed to do at the previous meeting, consider going back and reviewing the previous discussion topic again. It is important that people do what they say they will do before moving on.

Meet often. Meeting weekly is good. Meeting more frequently is better. Just be sure to give everyone enough time between meetings people to do their "Live and Tell" commitments.

Live and Tell. You have heard it before. But it is vital that your group understand the importance of following through with their Live and Tell commitments. If someone is not following through with his or her commitments talk about it with them. Do not ignore it. There are many reasons why a person may not be doing his or her Live and Tell commitments.

(1) They are making poor goals. Help your I am Second Group make attainable, measureable, and challenging goals.

Attainable- Great goals are reached by first reaching a thousand smaller more attainable goals. Do something great by doing something small and more attainable every day. Encourage your group to make attainable goals.

Measurable- Set a goal that you can measure, something that you can see. Push your group to make practical, measureable goals each time you meet.

Challenging- Think big. Your goals need to be attainable steps. But that does not mean they need to be insignificant or easy. What small step could you take that would truly challenge you, push you beyond your normal routine?

(2) Lack of training or understanding. If this is the case, repeat the previous lesson or think of other ways to help the person understand and be trained to follow through with their Live and Tell commitments.

(3) It may be a spiritual issue. This will take some tact and wisdom to deal with. You cannot make a person obey God, but you can encourage obedience. Repeating a lesson until everyone follows through may be the encouragement they need. You and the whole group should be concerned for the spiritual welfare of those who are not obeying God in their life.

Pass it on. There are two great commandments of Jesus. The first is to love God and to love your neighbor as yourself. The second is to pass it on. This is often called the Great Commission. The final topic addressed in this discussion guide introduces that second commandment, the Great Commission. Everything you learn about God you are supposed to pass on to others. Everything you and your group have learned in your I am Second Group should be passed on to others. The next discussion guide is called Follow as I Follow, and it will go into more detail on how to pass it on.

Helps

Talk with God 4.1

Summary: Jesus teaches his followers how to talk with God. This is the first and most basic step to take to grow in your relationship with God. All relationships require communication and your relationship with God is no different. Jesus provides a model prayer to guide his followers in how to talk with God. Rather than doing the usual lesson outline, today you are going to pray through the passage of the Bible, following Jesus' model step-by-step.

Some Help with the Lesson

Talk with God: The structure for this lesson is significantly different than usual, but you have done it once before in the Second Start discussion guide. Most of your group time will be focused on talking with God and not on discussing the passage.

Prayer is best taught through example. For this lesson, limit the amount of teaching or discussion time you have and focus on just talking with God. After very briefly talking about each principle, model prayer for the group by actually talking with God. After you pray encourage everyone in your group to talk with God as well. If you have a small group you can do this all together. If you have a larger group, you can break everyone up into pairs.

Since there are so many principles in Jesus' prayer, a memory device is useful for learning this lesson. Below is a tool in remembering Jesus' prayer. Reference this as you talk about each principle in Jesus' prayer with your group.

 **Relationship** Your fingers are held together by the palm. Likewise, your relationship with God holds together your prayer life.

 **Worship** The thumb represents praise. Worship him for his character. Tell God how much you love and appreciate him. God is not Santa. He wants to hear more from you than just your wish list.

 **Surrender** This is where you tell God "I surrender." Note your hand is now in the shape of a gun, which reminds us to say "I surrender" like a criminal does when confronted by a policeman. Before telling him what you want, tell God that you want what he wants. Surrender your will to his.

 **Ask** Your middle finger represents ask. God knows your needs, but he wants you to talk with him about them. Tell him about your situation and your needs. Ask him for help.

 **Forgive** We are to forgive others and ask God to forgive us. This is both a request and a commitment. It is a request that God will forgive you of your wrongs and a commitment that you will forgive others of the wrongs they have done against you. Take time to confess specific sins that come to mind. Most of the time, it is appropriate and extremely beneficial to confess these sins to your group as well, as they are then able to help you overcome these weaknesses. Secrecy is the best friend of sin.

 **Protect** The pinky is your weakest finger; let it remind you of your need for God's strength. Ask God to protect you as you try to live for him. Ask God to keep you from temptation and from the power of the evil one, Satan.

 **Worship** You can end your talk with God the same way you began it, by appreciating God for who he is and what he has done.

Remember Jesus 4.2

Summary: Remember Jesus. Since the beginning, followers of Jesus have made it a habit to remember together the death of Jesus by eating bread and drinking wine (or its non-alcoholic equivalent). Today you can do the same. Remember Jesus and his death.

Opener: There is no video for this lesson. But there is an opening question. Use this question or one of your own to break the ice for your group.

Note: Today you will be discussing the importance of remembering the death of Jesus with bread and wine. As you prepare for your group's meeting be sure to bring bread and wine (and/or juice) for your group to share together. Be aware of those uncomfortable or unable to drink alcohol and prepare accordingly.

Check-Up: Each week, group members are asked to put into practice what they learn. Be sure to hold them accountable. If they have not fulfilled their commitments, consider going back over the previous discussion.

Helps

Talk with God: The Bible reading today emphasizes the importance of making things right with other people before remembering Jesus together with bread and wine. As you talk with God confess your wrongs to God and make things right with your fellow Seconds.

Some Help with the Lesson

Have you talked about the main things?

1. What did you like? Jesus told his followers to remember his death whenever they eat bread and drink wine together. Jesus' death provides forgiveness for all who will accept it. It is this gift of spiritual life that is remembered and commemorated each time his followers meet. It is antithetical and hypocritical to commemorate this great forgiveness and at the same time be living in hatred, bitterness, or other wrongs that are contrary to Jesus.

2. What did you not like or find confusing? Remembering Jesus together by eating bread and drinking wine has been called a number of things by followers of Jesus. Sometimes it is called the Sacraments, communion, the Lord's Supper, or the elements. But the thing that all followers agree on is that it is a time to remember and commemorate the death of Jesus.

For people underage, those who feel uncomfortable, or recovering alcoholics, drinking wine may not be wise. Substituting grape juice or some other non-alcoholic drink is quite acceptable and even advisable in these situations.

Many have grown up in churches where this ceremony of remembering Jesus has many additional traditions added to it. Traditions include the recitation of certain formulas, the leading of it all by professional clergy, or the performing of it inside church buildings. While these traditions are not wrong, they are not a requirement of the Bible. Feel free to remember Jesus with bread and wine (or its non-alcoholic equivalent) whenever your group meets without these extra traditions.

3. What does this teach about people? Jesus wanted his followers to remember his death and the reason for his death, that he came to bring forgiveness and spiritual life. He gave them a visual aid to illustrate his death. The bread represented his body being broken and the wine represented his blood being spilled for the sins of the world. All who follow Jesus are to commemorate and remember his death with bread and wine (or juice) when they meet together.

This time of remembering is a time to again get right with God and get right with your fellow Seconds. As Paul taught, getting right with God and with others is essential especially when you are remembering Jesus' death. To fail to strive towards peace and love with God and others can bring serious consequences.

4. What does this teach about God?

As you have discussed before, the core message of the Christian faith is the death and resurrection of Jesus. Jesus wanted his followers to remember this. Today's discussion focused on one way your group can regularly remember the death of Jesus.

Live and Tell

5. Followers of Jesus have been meeting together remembering Jesus' death together by eating bread and drinking wine (or juice) since the time of Jesus. Make it a priority to take some time right now to do this as a group. Share some bread to remember the body of Jesus that was broken and some wine (or juice) to remember the blood that was spilled for your sins. This time of remembering should be a regular part of your group. When is the next time you can do this?

Note to leader: Make sure to bring bread and wine (or juice) in preparation for your

meeting. Be aware of those who will need or prefer juice instead of wine, this includes underage people, recovering alcoholics, and those who prefer not to drink alcohol.

6. You have spent time remembering the death of Jesus, but there are still many people in your life that have not heard of the good news of Jesus. Who can you commit to tell about Jesus? Have everyone refer back to their lists of 50 and decide who they can tell about Jesus.

Give 4.3

Summary: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." It is a concept most have heard of but few actually live by. The book of Acts provides glimpses into a community of Jesus followers that actually did live by it. The hurting are loved, the poor are helped, and the believers are generous.

Check-Up: If everyone in the group has not followed through with their Live and Tell commitments from previous meetings, consider not doing this lesson but instead going over the previous one again until everyone keeps their commitments.

Helps

Some Help with the Lesson

Have you talked about the main things?

1. What did you like? "It is more blessed to give than to receive." These early believers truly lived this principle. When they saw, a need they met it. If that meant selling a house or other property to do it, they would. The key to all of this was not that giving was legislated or forced, but that giving was the natural response of those who knew the grace of God.

2. What did you not like or find confusing? Giving is better than getting. Materialism battles against this principle. The materialistic society of many countries makes living by this principle difficult and even counter-intuitive. While in theory few would ever deny the value of such a principle, it is difficult to find a group of people who actually live this way as they did in Acts 4.

3. What does this teach about people? Giving is to be the happy and unforced response of every follower of Jesus to the grace of God. Nobody was forced into giving in this story. The believers felt so united and inspired by God's grace that when someone was in need, they gladly gave. Those who follow Jesus should be inspired to follow this example.

4. What does this teach about God?

Two things. God cares for the needy. And God wants his followers to meet these needs. God provides, but he usually does so through his people. You have what you have, not for yourself, but to better serve God and meet the needs of those around you. This does not mean you need to blindly give everything away or to live in abject poverty. But it does mean that if a need rises then you make it a priority to help meet that need, even at great personal sacrifice.

Pass it on 4.4

Summary: Make disciples. Teach others. Pass it on. What you have learned about God is meant to be passed on to others. Jesus' final words centered on this idea, that everything he taught, everything he commanded, was to be passed on to others. Paul likewise encouraged Timothy to remember his teaching, his way of life, and his faith and pass it on to others.

Opener: There is no video for this one, but there is an opening question. Use this question or one of your own to break the ice for your group.

Check-up: Your last discussion was about giving. Ask each person in your group how they lived out what they learned about giving and with whom they had a spiritual conversation about the topic.

Some Help with the Answers

Have you talked about the main things?

1. What did you like? Everyone needs to hear about Jesus and what he taught. And it is up to everyone in your I am Second Group to tell others what they are learning. But Jesus has not left you alone in that endeavor. Jesus, the one with all the authority of heaven and earth, promises to be with you to the very end.

2. What did you not like or find confusing? Hard times are ahead for those that follow Jesus. Paul mentions in brief some of the places where he faced hard times. In Second Start you learned about the hard times that Peter and John went through. You too as a follower of Jesus will face hard times. This will especially be the case as you share your

faith and pass on what you learn about God. Not everyone will accept you or your choice to follow Jesus. It will be hard, but Jesus is with you.

3. What does this teach about people? Pass it on. You are called to tell others what you learn about God. You are to tell people about the basic good news of Jesus, that he died and rose again to forgive sins. But you must not stop there. You are called to tell others everything that Jesus has taught. Paul reminded Timothy to remember his teaching, his way of life, his purpose, his faith, patience, love, endurance, persecutions, and sufferings. Everything. Timothy was to hold on to all this, stand firm, and tell others. You are to do the same.

4. What does this teach about God? God wants the whole world to know him. That includes your neighbors, coworkers, friends, enemies, people you know and people you do not know. He wants you to pass on what you know to others.



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Where next?

We recommend you try *Follow as I Follow* as your next discussion guide.

Questions? Do you need help or have questions?
Email us at coach@iamsecond.com.

I AM SECOND™

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