

ASKING GREAT QUESTIONS

FOR LIFE TRANSFORMATION

TIPS TO GREAT GROUP DISCUSSIONS

For the Facilitator:

- *Email a question or two early to get group members thinking.*
- *Use the discussion questions as a guide not a goal.*
- *Remember that the goal is group discussion not one-on-one dialogues with the facilitators.*
- *Use follow-up questions. The questions we provide are only "starter" questions.*
 - *Ask: "Why do you say that?"*
 - *Ask: "What do you mean?"*
 - *Ask: "Does everyone else see it that way?"*
 - *Say: "Say a bit more about that."*
- *When someone asks a question, you don't need to be the one to answer it. Ask "What do you guys think about that?"*
- *Allow disagreement with others' opinions but not disrespect.*
- *Manage your time. Get to the application questions.*
- *The best questions are the ones you don't know the answers to (opinions, experiences, personal applications).*

For Leaders and Co-Leaders (when you aren't the facilitator)

- *Don't look at the facilitator when answering a question. Look at the group.*
- *Attempt to ask two follow-up questions.*





GROUP GROUND RULES FOR GREAT DISCUSSIONS

(consider going over these on week one and perhaps one ground rule each week as a reminder)

- *I will listen to the sermon and bring my filled-out_sermon notes.*
- *I will participate in the group discussion.*
- *I will not dominate the group discussion.*
- *I will maintain proper confidentiality.*
- *I will share openly and honestly.*
- *I will draw out the thoughts and opinions of others.*
- *I will attempt to find and share specific applications to my life each week.*
- *I will be willing to disagree but not disrespect others in the group. I will critique ideas, not people.*
- *I will take responsibility for the quality of our group discussion.*
- *I will build on others comments and work toward a shared understanding.*

A "FORM" for Better Questions

- *Facts- "What happened?" or "What does it say?"*
- *Opinions- "What do you think about that?" "Do you agree with that?"*
- *Responses- "How did you respond to that?" "How did you feel?"*
- *Motivations- "Why?" "Why?" "Why?"*