

LEADER GUIDE | WEEK FOUR

Peace: Calm in the Chaos | **Forgiveness** | week of **January 28**

INTRODUCTION TO THE LESSON

This weekend's teaching dug into how we experience true peace because of Jesus' death and resurrection and receiving God's forgiveness. Unconfessed sin robs us of peace. This lesson gives space for your group to share the sins they've struggled with and overcome in the past and also the opportunity to be real about their current sins and temptations.

Your group may be the only place where your group members feel they can be real with what's going on in their life. Your role as the leader is to create an environment that promotes authentic discussions, deeper biblical understanding, and lifestyle transformation among group members. Be sure to give space and time for people to share the sin they struggle with and to ask God for His forgiveness. If you feel it could be helpful, have your group move into two smaller groups, one for men and one for women, similarly to the Strongholds week of the Rooted Experience.

important thing to note:

Your group may open up quickly to share or YOU, leader, may need to be the one to go first in sharing your sin and need for God's forgiveness. Be real as others will follow your example.

The key to this week is not only growing in awareness of our sin but also to establish practices in our lives that help break its power in our lives: confessing our sins to one another, asking + receiving God's forgiveness, and replacing that sin with obedience to God. The final section of the Scripture and Discussion section ends with encouraging the group to look through a list of behaviors to "Put Off" and "Put On." Once the group has looked through the behaviors and selected the one they want God's help to grow in this week, have them share that with the rest of the group. (The link for the list can be found at bit.ly/put-off).

new leader tip

Do your best to discern when something can be worked through in your group, and when someone (or a couple) needs to consider counseling. If you specifically need to refer someone to a counselor, be very sensitive with how you approach that and consider doing it one-on-one. Here is a list of local counseling resources: 242community.com/counseling

a question you may be wondering about...

"What if I have someone in my group who has never asked for God's forgiveness? How do I share the gospel with them?"

***This tool** is a simple yet powerful way to share the story of God's redemption. Draw the three circles and ask them the follow-up questions to see if they would like to make Jesus their Lord and Savior.*

PRAYER

Pray as a group for each person in a focused way to:

- Experience God's peace throughout their week
- Support each person as they take the next step God revealed to them.
- Share with others how they are experiencing peace.

EXTRA INFO TO SHARE WITH YOUR GROUP

STEP ONE | Invite those newer to your group or newer to 2|42 to attend the next Step One class at your campus. They can learn more and RSVP at 242community.com/stepone

NIGHT TO SHINE | Help make this night special for our guests! Learn more + [sign up](#) to volunteer.

KIDS + STUDENTS CAMPS | Sign-ups are open now for [summer camps!](#)

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ICE BREAKER QUESTION

Would you rather: a) be forced to watch the same tv episode over and over again OR b) never watch TV again? Why?

CHECK-IN QUESTION

How have you grown in peace throughout this series?

THIS WEEK'S BIG IDEA

It's through the forgiveness of Jesus that we experience peace.

What stuck out to you from the weekend teaching?

SCRIPTURE + DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Romans 6|1-23

1. Have two people summarize the chapter.
2. What do we learn about God in this chapter?
3. What do we learn about humanity in this chapter?
4. Small group is meant to be a place where we can be real with each other. Where have you been a slave to sin in the past that Jesus has set you free from? What sin are you needing forgiveness for right now?
5. How can we be a community that supports one another?

Ephesians 4|22-25 reads, "You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness."

This week, during the 2-5 minutes of silence: Have your group study the list of "Put Offs" and "Put Ons" from bit.ly/put-off and select one that sticks out to them as something they want to grow in this week. Share back which one they selected and how they will apply that in their lives this week.

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