



SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS CAMPAIGN

BECOMING CHRISTLIKE

Following Jesus in Today's World

LESSONS FOR
CLGs
(Community Life Groups)

WEEK 1 – BECOMING

CLG FACILITATOR GUIDELINES

This lesson outline enables the person leading the discussion in a Community Life Group (CLG facilitator) to have a deeper understanding of the lesson content so that they can direct and guide the discussion effectively. Therefore, the CLG facilitator is advised to read and understand the lesson outline before leading the discussion session.

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LESSON OUTLINE

- Becoming means being called to the process of growth, which is a life-long process. Discipleship means following the model of Jesus.
- Discipleship aim is to Love God and Love your neighbour. Remember, the first love must be God, love for our neighbour flows from that and cannot be an end in itself!
- The goal of discipleship is CHRIST-likeness! Note that God is committed to this journey, as enabler and finisher. Fix your eyes on Jesus! And how do we see Him? Through the Scriptures and through

loving obedience, this causes Him to reveal more of Himself to us.

- The acronym **Becoming Christ-like** is interpreted in this campaign as;
 - Becoming.
 - **C**entred on God.
 - **H**oly in life.
 - **R**ighteous in action.
 - **I**ntegrated in the body.
 - **S**pirit-filled for service.
 - **T**otally engaged.
 - **L**ike Christ we engage the world
- As Jesus appointed some to be with him, discipleship is founded on being with God. The Holy Spirit works continually to sanctify us to make us holy like Jesus
- Discipleship will mean changing our goals. The world's advice is to keep our eyes on the bottom line which means serving money. Jesus said you cannot serve both God and money. In this discipleship journey we have to shift our goal and fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith." Money becomes a tool for serving God, it can also be fruit showing that you are serving neighbours in a way that adds value to them.

MEMORY VERSE

Romans 8: 29 (NIV)

²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

LESSON QUESTIONS

1. Who do you understand a disciple of Christ to be? For example, what would you say a disciple is and a disciple is not?
2. Why is loving God and loving your neighbour a core belief in being a disciple of Christ? (*Scripture references Matt. 22:36-40; Luke 10:25-37*)
3. Becoming means being called to the process of growth, which is a life-long process. How does "Becoming CHRIST-Like" benefit your own life in relation to yourself, your family, friends, colleagues and community? (*Scripture references Rom. 8:1-2, 28-30, 1 John 3:2,*)
4. In what ways does serving money distract us from being a disciple of Christ (*Scripture reference Matt. 6: 19-34*)
5. As humans, we sometimes fail, often sin and at times feel very far from God. Is a person becoming Christ-like really possible in the world we live in and if not, why should we try? (*Scripture reference 1 Peter 1: 13-23, 1 Pet. 2:21-25, Heb. 4: 14-16,*)

WEEK 2 – CENTERED ON GOD

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LESSON OUTLINE

- The phrase “being Centered on God” means Worship. It can be interpreted as a self giving commitment to receive, depend on and respond to God's love through providence in Jesus Christ
- True worship is founded on being in awe of God's sovereignty and accepting God's love. It is amazing that this Sovereign God who created and sustains all things, and for whom all things exist, loves you. He loves me. He loves us. He chose to make us the object of His affection and to do some really major things for us including reaching out to us in love while we were still rebelling against Him!

- True worship is loving God back. It is understanding your number one purpose in life is that through worship, God wants you to love Him back! He wants a relationship with you
- True worship involves ;
 - Receiving God's love by being born again, accepting Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour
 - Responding to God's love by being truly thankful for the active love that God is continuously pouring out into our lives
 - Giving our lives as living sacrifices to God by giving ourselves over to Him.
 - Depending on God's love and providence by living your life recognizing that it takes God's empowerment and guidance to survive and thrive in this fallen world

MEMORY VERSE

Romans 12:1 (NIV)

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

LESSON QUESTIONS

1. When you hear the term "Centered on God", what do you understand it to mean?
2. What makes true worship so unique as compared to prayer, reading the bible, giving alms to the needy and other religious activities?

3. Why is understanding the majesty and awesomeness of our Sovereign God such an important part of our worship? (*Scripture reference Rom. 11:36*)
4. Why does the immeasurable love of God cause worship in the hearts of human beings? (*Scripture reference 1 John 4:10, Eph. 3: 17-19*)
5. Worship services in church often involve singing, raising hands and speaking to God. What would you need to understand or apply so as to elevate your worship to true worship? (*Scripture reference Romans 12:1, John 1: 12-13, John 15:5*)

WEEK 3 – HOLY IN LIFE

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LESSON OUTLINE

- Holy in Life means living lives that are visibly set apart to follow Christ
- God's holiness is about his majesty, greatness and power that not only creates, but sustains the Universe. It is about the fact that God's way is beyond all of us. He is light and in Him there is no darkness at all. Pure with no contamination at all. No evil thoughts, no bad motives, no scars or corruption. Our God is Holy
- God instructs his people to "Be holy, because I am holy"

- Being Holy is;
 - Separateness from this world meaning we are a special, chosen people, who God has set aside for His very own purposes
 - Purity meaning God calls us to ethical holiness that is being pure in mind, word and action. Five areas of life of particular concern are;
 - » Conduct
 - » Sexual Purity
 - » Greed
 - » Speech
 - » Heart

MEMORY VERSE

1 Peter 1: 14-15 (NIV)

¹⁴As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. ¹⁵But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do;

LESSON QUESTIONS

1. The term “Holy in Life” is defined as living lives that are visibly set apart to follow Christ. What do you understand as the meaning of “visibly set apart”?
2. How does a Christian remain visibly set apart in workplaces, relations and environments where others scorn and ridicule the faith? Do you have any experiences to share?

3. One dimension of holiness is recognizing God's majesty, greatness and power over all creation. Why is being in awe of God so important in keeping one's holiness intact? (*Scripture reference Rev. 4:8-11, Isa 55: 8-9*)
4. God commands us to be holy because he is holy. Discuss whether it is possible to be holy? (*Scripture reference Lev. 19:1-2, Phil. 1:27, 2:9-10*)
5. What encouragement can you share with fellow group members whom maybe struggling with impure thoughts, wrong choices, bad habits, "situation-ships"; that are drawing them away from holiness? (*Scripture reference 1 John 1:8-9, Phil. 4:8, Eph. 5:1-8*)

WEEK 4 – RIGHTEOUS IN ACTION

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LESSON OUTLINE

- Righteous in action is proactively engaging the world in practical ways that display God's will and love
- Righteousness involves the work of making justice a reality. Righteousness is not abstaining from doing wrong, but it is principally a call to action to do what is right. When you have done what is right, the result should be justice.
- Righteousness directs our actions to align and follow our testimony. In this way, what we say matches what we do.

- The goal of serving in righteousness is not recognition but faithfulness to God and to your neighbour. As such, service should not be done to gain publicity but should be done quietly with consideration to the dignity of the beneficiary.
- Practical steps to establish righteousness include;
 - Make Righteousness personal
 - Seek God's will prayerfully
 - Provide relief to the needy
 - Provide release to the captives

MEMORY VERSE

Romans 6:13 (NIV)

¹³ Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness.

LESSON QUESTIONS

1. How are the concepts of righteousness and justice connected?
2. Why does righteousness focus more on what you do rather than what you say? (Scripture reference James 2: 14-17, Luke 10: 25-37)
3. With reference to the memory verse, how can you offer yourself to God as an instrument of righteousness? (Scripture reference Rom. 6:13)

4. Are there situations in your past where you may have felt powerless or constrained to address an injustice you witnessed? Looking back, what could you have done differently?

5. What steps could you take so as to be aware of ignorant, hidden or unconscious injustices that you are unknowingly inflicting on those in your workplace, home or community around you?

WEEK 5 – INTEGRATED IN THE BODY

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LESSON OUTLINE

- We unite with other Christians because we are members of God's family
- Having a clear and shared identity secures my place in God's family
- Humility, gentleness and bearing with each other settles relationships within God's family
- Staying focused on Jesus harmonizes our goals as God's family
- Supporting others to mature strengthens the ministry of God's family

- Practical steps to integrate in the body involve;
 - Make every effort to keep family united
 - Build your community
 - Commit to walk with other Christians

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 4: 15 (NIV)

¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

LESSON QUESTIONS

1. The term “Integrated in the body” can be defined as being actively engaged in the life of the local church and involved in close fellowship with other believers. In what ways are you actively engaged and involved in church and with other believers? If not, what do you intend to do about it?
2. For people who are passively engaged or uncommitted to the church, what are they likely to miss out on?
3. How does having a clear and shared identity enable a person to connect and feel a part of a believer's fellowship? (*Scripture reference Eph 4:4-6, John 1: 12-13*)
4. How does applying humility and gentleness help resolve differences that arise as you interact with other believers? (*Scripture reference Eph 4: 1-2*)
5. Could you share an experience where speaking the truth in love led to the restoration or reconciliation of a relationship with a fellow believer? (*Scripture reference Eph 4: 15,25*)

WEEK 6 – SPIRIT FILLED FOR SERVICE

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LESSON OUTLINE

- Being Spirit Filled for Service means actively seeking the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to enable service of Christ.
- The presence of the Holy Spirit in your life is;
 - Necessary for Entry into Salvation
 - Necessary for successful and impactful Christian Living
 - Necessary for Fruitfulness in ministry empowered by spiritual gifts and fruit

MEMORY VERSE

Acts 1:8 (NIV)

⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

LESSON QUESTIONS

1. Being "Spirit -Filled for Service" is defined as actively seeking the Presence and Power of the Holy Spirit to enable service of Christ. In your own words, who is the Holy Spirit? (*Scripture reference Matt 28:19-20, 1 Cor. 6: 19-20*)
2. What is the role of the Holy Spirit in the Salvation of Sinners? (*Scripture reference 1 Cor. 12: 3,13, Luke 3:21-22, Acts 2:38-39*)
3. As a Christian, how do you benefit from the relationship between our Risen Christ and the Holy Spirit? (*Scripture reference Acts 1:4, John 14:12-17, 16:14-15*)
4. Why is developing Spiritual Fruit just as important as developing Spiritual Gifts especially in Christian ministry? (*Scripture reference Matt. 7:15-20, Gal. 6:22-23*)
5. As a Christian, what steps can you take to discover and develop your spiritual gifts? (*Scripture reference Rom. 12:6-8, 1 Cor. 12:4-11*)

WEEK 7 – TOTALLY ENGAGED

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LESSON OUTLINE

- For any believer to be totally engaged all of life, whether in the physical, mental, social or spiritual spheres one should reflect the truths in scripture
- Embrace the higher calling to serve God while being aware of dualism
- Everything that we do is in the presence of God who created everything
- Be the best you can be at your work as service to God
- Being totally engaged may look messy but keep moving
- Being totally engaged involves redefining success

MEMORY VERSE

Colossians 3:23

²³ Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters

LESSON QUESTIONS

1. Being totally engaged is defined as being fully committed and involved in all of life while reflecting the truth in scripture. Share how over time your habits, behaviour and thoughts have conformed to the Word of God? *(Scripture reference Rom. 12:2)*
2. Discuss whether the spiritual world influences the natural world and to the same extent, share your experience on events where your spiritual life interacted with your natural life? *(Scripture reference Matt. 6:10, 1 Thess. 5:23)*
3. How does serving others help you overcome your own problems? *(Scripture reference Eph. 6:5-8)*
4. As a growing Christian, what steps could you take so that your physical, mental and social spheres reflect more of God's truth just as your spirit grows? *(Scripture reference Luke 2:52,)*
5. Many people struggle with the thought of giving Christ control over every part of their life. Discuss and share experiences on whether a person gains more than one loses when a person yields totally to the Lord? *(Scripture reference Matt. 11: 28-30, Psa. 55:22, 68:19)*

WEEK 8 – LIKE CHRIST, WE ENGAGE THE WORLD

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LESSON OUTLINE

- Like Christ, we Engage the World as we go and make disciples of all nations
- Understand God's Command to make disciples and not converts
- We Engage the World by;
 - Become a disciple first
 - Sent to all Nations
 - Do as Jesus did
 - Disciple Believers and Non-Believers
 - Empowered by the Holy Spirit

MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 28: 18-20 (NIV)

¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ 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, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

LESSON QUESTIONS

1. The theme being taught this week is "go and make disciples of all nations". In your understanding, who is or who isn't a disciple of Christ? (Scripture reference *John 8:31-32, 2 Tim. 2:1-2, Luke 9:23-24, 14:26-27*)
2. God calls his Church to make disciples. Only God can change sinner's hearts, bring people into the Body, and make them true Christians. As a Christian, what role do you play in witnessing to sinners? (Scripture reference *Matt. 16:16-17, Rom 10: 14-17, Heb. 3:12-14, Acts 3: 37-41*)
3. Why is loving God with all you are and loving your neighbour as yourself very important in developing discipleship in your life? (Scripture reference *John 13-34-35, 1 Cor. 13:1-3,*)
4. How does the Holy Spirit support you in your discipleship journey? (Scripture reference *2 Cor. 3:5-7, Acts 1:8,*)
5. Discuss and share experiences of opportunities you have grabbed to disciple unbelievers? (Scripture reference *1 Pet. 2: 11-12, Titus 3:1,2,14, Matt: 5:13-16*)

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