

LIFE Group Leader Handout

April 28, 2019

Inverted-- "...turned the world upside down.." Acts 17:6

Pastor Michael O'Connor

Scripture--1 Corinthians 12:12-26

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. 19 If all were a single member, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." 22 On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, 24 which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, 25 that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

Main Idea--The Church is the Body of Christ--We Need One Another to Function

Vision: A preferred future reality--for ICC: Revelation 7:9-10

The picture is of people united, excited, invited.

Our Mission at Island Christian Church--

- To glorify the Lord our light and salvation
- To walk in the light in fellowship with one another
- To shine his light in the world

The Church: The Body of Christ--*Many members, one body of Christ.*

The Apostle Paul corrects two errors in 1 Corinthians 12--

- I am not needed. (vs 14-20)
- I don't need others (21-26)

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)

Application--

- How did this message change how you think and feel about your place in the Body of Christ?
- How did it change how you think and feel about others and their part in the Body of Christ?
- Can you give testimony of a time when you saw the Body of Christ working together with great unity and purpose to accomplish something wonderful for God and His Kingdom?
- What changes do you need to make to realize this truth more fully in your personal life?

Five Types of Questions

By Mac Lake

The first step toward dynamic discussions is knowing your options. There are 5 types of questions you will use as a group facilitator.

Icebreaker Questions

Icebreaker questions introduce the topic by asking about personal experience or common human experiences. They help create a relaxed atmosphere and are an easy way for people to engage in the discussion. Icebreakers allow group members to share something about themselves on a safe level.

For example:

- What was your biggest childhood fear?
- What was the most unique gift you were ever given?
- What is your best vacation memory?

Observation Questions

Observation questions help the group member identify what the biblical text is saying. Asking this type of question usually causes the group member to look back at the passage in order to discover the answer. When I ask observation questions, I look for the "nose in the book" response. I hope that everyone looks at the text to look for the answer.

For example:

- What was Jesus' audience like?
- How does Paul describe the believers in Colossians in this paragraph?
- What are the action verbs in verses 4-7?

Interpretation Questions

The purpose of an interpretation question is to discover what the text means. While each passage has many applications, it only has one interpretation. Interpretation questions cause the group to wrestle with the meaning of a verse or passage.

For example:

- Why do you think Jesus told the healed man to "show but not to tell?"
- What do you think the author intended as the main point of this passage?
- What does it mean when Peter writes, "be holy as God is holy?"

Application Questions

Application questions help the group members see how they can act on the principle they discovered in the passage. Good application questions will help people to think, What should I do about this?

For example:

- Which of the virtues from this passage do you need to work on the most? Why?
- What is one specific thing you can do this week to show the love of Christ to others?
- What is the next step you need to take in order to strengthen the unity in your family?

Follow-Up Questions

These are spontaneous questions used by the facilitator to get clarification, amplification, or illustration of a group member's answer.

For example:

- "Sue, that is a great answer. Can you give us an example of what you are talking about?"
- "That is great insight, Bob. What are some practical ways we can apply that to our lives?"
- "That's interesting. Explain what you mean."

Being familiar with and using the five types of questions will help you put together a balanced study that will produce dynamic discussion.