

1 Vision Area

This section will indicate which of the seven areas of the 1 Vision are being addressed in this lesson.

The Big Picture

This section will give a brief summary of the main idea of the lesson.

Biblical Text

The Biblical text on which this lesson is addressed. At times a text may be included, but not the main purpose of the lesson. In these instances, the text supports or gives example of the idea or activity being addressed in the lesson.

Materials Needed

A listing of any materials that may be needed for the lesson.

Preparing for the Lesson

An introduction of the lesson for those who are leading the group discussion. This section will include some meta-themes about the lesson, along with any equipping material that may be used. Equipping material may include things to read or videos to view and links to this material, if applicable.

This section may also include some Biblical texts or devotional material to help prepare your minds/hearts as you teach the lesson. These are for the leader, not a part of the lesson to be presented.

Possible Lesson Outline

This will be the main section of the lesson. It will be the “If I were leading this lesson, I would...” section. Not only will the lesson be outlined, but options, if applicable, will be included.

Lesson activities will be listed here, but described in detail in the section below.

NOTE: While an outline will be given here, the group leader will know his/her group better than anyone else. Please use this outline as a suggestion and modify as you see fit. Substitute activities you think will better serve the purpose of the lesson or skip some question you do not think will resonate with your group. The purpose of the lesson is to communicate the main idea, not follow a script.

Lesson Activities

For lessons that have some sort of activity, they will be found in this section. It will describe the activity, as well as the purpose behind that activity.

For the Kids

Because one of the foci of the 1 Vision is intergenerational groups, as often as possible, there will be specific activities and ways to include children within the group.

NOTE: There are a couple of presuppositions I have here. The first is that your group will have children in it. Obviously, if you do not, skip this section. Or invite a family that has children.

The second presupposition is that your children are an active part of and present at your “lesson” time. We do not always include the children in the lesson. There are some times that the children or the parents or both need the children

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For the Kids (cont.)

to go outside and play while the adults share. However, as often as we can, we have the children be a part of our discussion. Do they understand everything they hear? No. Do they recognize that their parents place value in this time we call “group?” Yes, and that lesson may be as valuable as some of the things we actually say to one another.

I have been a part of groups that have the children go in another room and have a “Children’s Lesson” or have someone hired to care for the children during the lesson time. If this is your typical pattern, consider bringing everyone together and having a lesson together.

Spiritual Formation / Worship

For some lessons, there will be a focus on ways we are transformed by the message we are studying. Some lessons may even have a time to pause and engage in some spiritual practice related to the lesson.

There may also be times where songs or moments of worship may be offered in which you may participate. I realize that not all groups have a time of worship as a part of your group agenda, but if you do, perhaps some of the suggestions here may help.

For Next Week

In an attempt to keep group members engaged with one another and with the main idea from the lesson, I will regularly include “home work” for group members to do during the week. These activities will primarily be an attempt to get us to live out the ideas from the lesson, especially in such a way that those ideas intersect the lives we live with one another.

Prayer Ideas

Similar to above, this section will contain suggestions as to how you might go about praying together as a group. Different types of prayers will be suggested, as well as different topics for which to pray.

Discussion Questions

Every week I will include discussion questions from the appropriate text. The purpose of these questions is not to cover the selected text in an exhaustive manner, but to invite people to engage in dialogue with one another. They will attempt to help us grow from the text through our sharing in discussion.

You may choose to ask all of the questions, a couple of the questions, or skip the questions altogether. Some weeks the main idea of the lesson may not lend itself to discussion, but I will include these questions nonetheless.

For Further Reading/Study

Occasionally I will include materials that group members can use to continue to think and discuss the ideas from the group throughout the week. If these are in the form of online resources, I will include the link as well as place them on the 1 Groups website (1groups.com).

What’s Next

A short introduction as to the main idea of the lesson for the following week.