

NORTH STAR | LEADER'S GUIDE | WEEK 1

GROUP FORMAT

- Start each group on time
- 10 minutes: each person has 2 minutes to share how their past week went, including a report on their weekly practice (in Week 1, we will not discuss this)
- 40 minutes: discuss the content from that week
- 10 minutes: Close in prayer, praying over the specific concepts of the group

WEEK 1 – BIG IDEAS

Week 1 is all about introducing us to the journey of following Jesus as our “North Star”.

- Day 1 (North Star): Is Jesus my “North Star”?
- Day 2 (Follow Me): “Follow Me” meant something different to the 12 disciples than to us. Jesus invited his followers on a journey that would change everything in their lives.
- Day 3 (Genie God): We are invited to enjoy more than the blessings God gives us. We are invited to enjoy God himself.
- Day 4 (Boss God): Our achievements for God should not be isolated from intimacy with God.
- Day 5 (Coffee Mugs): Following Jesus takes more than passion. It requires training. The spiritual disciplines (Practices of Jesus) are the way we train to connect with God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **What are some things in your life that compete for the position of “North Star”? What happens in your life when something besides God becomes your “North Star”?**
2. On Day 2, we learned that the first disciples had to “lay down their nets” to follow Jesus. **Have you ever had to lay something down to follow Jesus?**
 - *Have someone in your group read Matthew 28:18-20 and 2 Timothy 2:2. Ask them their observations.*
 - *Jesus’ goal was that his disciples would make other disciples. In 2 Timothy 2:2, we see four generations of disciples. In the same way, God wants you to have spiritual children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.*
 - *Question: Is it better to add 1,000 to The Harbor every year for 10 years, or for each one of us to make 1 disciple who makes 1 disciple every year for 10 years?*

- Answer: 1,000 to The Harbor every year = 10,000 in 10 years.
If 150 disciples each make one disciple who makes one disciple = 153,600 in 10 years
 - (You could also draw exponential growth on a napkin)
 - *From Week 1, we want our disciples to catch the vision of disciples making disciples*
3. **What is something that you delight in? What does “delighting” in something mean to you? Have you ever considered that you could enjoy or delight in God? What do you think that means?**
 4. “Genie God” is basing your relationship on what physical blessings God can give to you. “Boss God” is basing your relationship on what accomplishments you can do for God. **Which of these do you tend towards? Why are both “Genie God” and “Boss God” incomplete views of God?**
 - *We are trying to get our disciples to the place where they realize that Christianity is the only religion that begins from a place of grace. Our faith is not based on our accomplishments for God, but on Jesus’ accomplishments for us at the cross.*
 - Passage to use: Eph 2:1-10 (especially verses 8-9)
 5. **How do you to create intimacy in the important relationships of your life? How could these ideas connect with our relationships with Jesus?**
 - *We want to create a desire to organize our lives in such a way that we create space for the presence of God (just like a coffee mug creates space for coffee)*
 6. Close by discussing Solitude. Ask if there are any questions about practicing Solitude. Encourage your disciples that the goal is not perfection but taking small steps on the journey.