



SMALL GROUP LEADERS: - Remember the C's of Small group health:

CONTENT - *biblical, intentional, and conversational*

CONSISTENCY - *regular meetings and interactions with one another*

CARE - *sharing life's ups and downs with grace, love and encouragement*

CELEBRATION - *celebrating God's grace to us and having fun together*

COMMISSION - *participating in what God is doing now during our lifetime on earth*

CHARACTER - *as a leader - growing in my example for my group*

Ice Breaker:

- What's the longest you have gone without ... a shower? exercising? eating something healthy?

Into the Word:

1) What part of the sermon are you still thinking about? Why?

Read or review the story of David & Absalom in 2 Samuel 13-18

2) What part of this story (or what character in the story) did you most identify with?

3) Why do you think David did nothing for so long?

4) In your own life how does this story serve as an explanation? warning? invitation?

5) How does this story point us to Jesus? (see 2 Samuel 18:33)

Apply the Word:

6) In your relationships & family, where have you been neglectful?

7) How will you apply something from this message (or this series)? Make it specific, practical and timely.

Special Big Idea Activity:

- Hand out note cards or pieces of paper to everyone in the group.
- Each group member should write down their commitment from question 7, including what they are doing to do and when they are going to do it or start it. For example, "Take my wife on a date night by Oct. 20th" or "Start a family devotional 3 times a day, starting next Sunday."

- Each person should write their name on their card and someone take up the all cards.
- Now mix the cards up and each group member take someone else's card, ensuring that couples do not get each other's card.
- Group members should commit to pray for one another and to contact the person with an encouragement to carry out their commitment.

Prayer Time:

Using the exercise above, have each member in the group pray for the person whose card they received.

Example: God, be with Bob as he starts devotionals with his kids this week. Give him clarity and strength. Amen.