

Getting to Know Us- building intimacy in your small group

1. What is your favorite memory of volunteering to serve others as part of a church group or non-profit group? Why does that memory stand out to you?

Getting into the Word- edification by digging deeper into the message

1. Read together the Scriptures for this week's message, from Luke 6:46-49.
2. The contrast between hearing and doing is emphasized often in the book of James. Read from James 1:22-27; 2:14-26. Discuss how doing what Jesus commands is a demonstration of our faith, and how this differs from someone who "claims the name" but has no works or fruit.
3. Both men in our passage came to Jesus and heard His teaching. In the analogy Jesus made, both men also built a house that was hit by a storm. Their only difference was in doing what they heard (or not) and building on a foundation (or not). Discuss how and why the firm foundation is doing, not hearing but doing, what Jesus says.
4. Read from Ezra 3:10-13, how Israel celebrated when the foundation for the second temple was completed, even though the rest of the building had not yet begun. What does the foundation of any building accomplish, physically or as a symbol? Compare and discuss the foundation of the temple to the foundation on which we build in our hearts.

Application- vulnerability in sharing personal experiences

1. Read through the entire sermon on the plain before this week, Luke 6:20-45, taking note of each command that Jesus gives during the sermon. Are there any of these commands which you struggle with? Has a storm of life revealed that in this struggle you are still like the man who has built his house on the sand?