

**Getting to Know Us-** building intimacy in your shared group

1. Have you ever been on a road trip? What is a favorite memory from it?

**Getting into the Word-** digging deeper into the message

1. Much of the Bible is written with chiasmic structure, a poetic way to present ideas in parallel. Read from Proverbs 31:4-7 and discuss how the flow of words makes this wise proverb interesting or easier to ponder or more memorable, if at all. Here is a chart to help visualize the chiasms in this passage:

A (v4) "kings"  
B (v4) "kings to drink wine"  
C (v4) "rulers to take strong drink"  
D (v5) "forget the decrees"  
D' (v5) "pervert the rights"  
C' (v6) "strong drink to the one perishing"  
B' (v6) "wine to those in distress"  
A' (v7) "poverty and misery"

2. This week's Scripture was in Luke 6:20-26. Read v20 and v24 together, and then read v21a and v25a together. Re-read these two couplets but replace the word "blessed" with "happy" and the word "woe" with "a warning". Does that enhance the meaning of these passages to you in our English language idiom?
3. Read the parable in Luke 16:19-31. Discuss the descriptions of the two men during their life on earth and connect that with this week's sermon. How did worldly comforts prevent the rich man (and his brothers) from repenting to the Lord for salvation?
4. The consolation the rich have on earth is a form of PARAKLETE. Read about the PARAKLETE="Helper" that believers in Jesus have on earth, in John 14:26; 15:25; 16:7-11, and the second PARAKLETE="Advocate" (same Greek word!) that believers have on earth, in 1 John 2:1-2. Compare the one earthly comforter of the rich unbeliever with the two earthly comforters of all believers.

**Application-** sharing personal experiences

1. If Luke 6:21a is parallel to Matthew 5:6 (with its physical and spiritual metaphors) then Luke 6:25a implies a fearful warning for the "spiritually full" that they shall be hungry. Share about times you were "spiritually full" in a negative sense, perhaps just comfortable and routine in your spiritual life. How did God bring you to a place of "spiritual hunger" to get your eyes back on Him?