



NAC-USA
DEVELOPMENT
INSTITUTE

Keeping
your
promises

Willingness
to serve

Follow His
example

MIDWEEK GUIDE

2018

June

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Session 1: Keeping your promises

1. What qualifies something as a promise?

2. What promises have you made in your life? How much did you think about them before you said them?

3. The Bible tells us how God has fulfilled His promises to His people throughout history. What are some of those promises, and in what ways does God's faithfulness to His people inspire you to keep your promises to Him?

4. What helped Peter to eventually keep His promises to God? What helps you keep your promises?

5. What promises have you made to God? How do you daily live out those promises?

6. What makes it hard for you to keep the promises you have made to God? Has fear ever caused you to back out of a promise? If so, what could have helped you to affirm your promise and overcome your fear?

7. Have you ever felt ridiculed or put down for speaking about Christ? Can you share your experience?

8. Do you consider your congregation a community of support? How could you contribute more to such a community?

Bible References

Luke 22:33, 56-60

Acts 2:44-47

Matthew 28:19-20

Acts 5:12-42

Session 2: Willingness to serve

1. How does one's willingness to serve demonstrate one's faithfulness to Christ?

2. Like the seven men who cared for the widows in the first example from the video, what could you do to support your ministers so they have more time to devote to preaching God's Word?

3. In the past month, can you think of a time when you have been moved to action because of God's Word? Share with your group.

4. Do you see any similarities between the story of Apollos and what takes place in a small group? How can we edify and equip each other to fulfill God's calling for our lives?

5. What kind of things cause us to hold back from serving even when we feel called to do what is needed?

6. How can someone find the courage to serve in a situation that is uncertain and possibly dangerous?

7. Followers of Jesus have a continuous thirst to grow in their understanding of God. How does knowing more about God help us to faithfully serve Him?

8. Can a person grow in their willingness to serve? If so, how?

Bible References

Acts 6:7

Acts 16:13-15

Acts 9

Acts 18:24-28

Session 3: Follow His example

1. In what ways are you following Jesus' example in your serving?

2. How does renewing our minds help us to follow Christ's example? Use the story of Peter and Cornelius to help answer this question.

3. What activities or experiences can you open yourself to in order to face your prejudices? How can learning from Jesus' example help us to move past prejudices?

4. The mission of our church begins with "reaching out to all people." In what ways did Jesus reach out to all people during His ministry? What do His actions teach us?

5. Do you have any interactions with people "not deemed worthy by society"? If no, why not? How can you change that?

6. What does it mean to be accepted? What healing can take place when someone that was left out feels accepted?

7. PERSONAL TAKE-HOME: We've talked a lot about prejudices today, and that can be a difficult topic to be honest about with ourselves. Take a few moments to think of a person you might have a prejudice towards. Acknowledge that prejudice. Put a face on the person. Picture them with their family. Now, consider Peter's words: *In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality.* How can you take steps to see that person the way that God sees them? What is it that is holding you back? Can you put a name to it? Is it founded in truth?

Bible References

Acts 10

Matthew 28:18-20

1 Corinthians 15:31