

The Jesus MeetUp (Meeting Host Outline)

Follow Me!

START AND END ON TIME!

Ice Breaker Game:

Desert Island

Announce, 'You've been exiled to a deserted island for a year. In addition to the essentials, you may take one piece of music, one book (which is not our book) and one luxury item you can carry with you i.e. not a boat to leave the island! What would you take and why?'

Allow a few minutes for people to draw up their list of three items, before sharing their choices with the rest of the group. As with most icebreakers and relationship building activities, it's good for the group leaders to join in too!

Ice Breaker Question:

What was your favorite subject at school?

My Story

(a pre-planned 5-7 minute story given by a member. Be sure and tell them that this cannot go over time! It would be good to have heard them do this for you over the phone the day before the meeting. If they don't let you hear it then they don't get to do it. You have to know that they won't go on for 15 minutes! Consider having a sign up sheet kept by the prayer cards for them to sign up. Also offer a take home My Story information sheet that may help some prepare.)

Speaking: 196:0.3 Jesus does not require his disciples to believe in him but rather to believe **with** him, believe in the reality of the love of God and in full confidence accept the security of the assurance of sonship **with** the heavenly Father. The Master desires that all his followers should fully share his transcendent faith. Jesus most touchingly challenged his followers, not only to believe what he believed, but also to believe **as** he believed. This is the full significance of his one supreme requirement, "Follow me."

Question: Have you ever wondered how many times Jesus said that phrase, "Follow Me"? (Wait for a guess. Then make a joke by saying that you don't know either. Again, poking fun at ourselves is endearing to a group or an individual)

Joke or story: Here are a few examples from some churches of what we do NOT want to do when attempting to attract people to the true ministry of Jesus and our book.

* The outreach committee has enlisted 25 visitors to make calls on people who are not afflicted with any church.

* Next Sunday, Mrs. Vinson will be soloist for the morning service. The pastor will then speak on “It’s a Terrible Experience.”

* Don’t let worry kill you—let the church help.

These are really bad and stupid jokes, I know. But have fun making fun of how bad these jokes are. Even a stupid joke is fun when in a group of people. Find something fun to say or something for them to laugh about. Humor goes a LONG way in warming up a room full of people.

(Break into groups of 2-4 people or stay in a large group if not over 7 people)

Question for small group: When was the last time that you felt a real pull towards following the Master in your own life? (Allow 5-7 minutes for this. If conversations die down move to the next question.)

Question for small group: How did this manifest in your life? Were there any good results from this for you personally? (Allow 5-7 minutes for this. If conversations die down move on to the next thing.)

(Bring all back together. Try not to read this like a script. Make it your own!)

Speaking: ^{196:2.2} Jesus’ life in the flesh portrays a transcendent religious growth from the early ideas of primitive awe and human reverence up through years of personal spiritual communion until he finally arrived at that advanced and exalted status of the consciousness of his oneness with the Father. And thus, in one short life, did Jesus traverse that experience of religious spiritual progression which man begins on earth and ordinarily achieves only at the conclusion of his long sojourn in the spirit training schools of the successive levels of the pre-Paradise career. Jesus progressed from a purely human consciousness of the faith certainties of personal religious experience to the sublime spiritual heights of the positive realization of his divine nature and to the consciousness of his close association with the Universal Father in the management of a universe. He progressed from the humble status of mortal dependence which prompted him spontaneously to say to the one who called him Good Teacher, “Why do you call me good? None is good but God,” to that sublime consciousness of achieved divinity which led him to exclaim, “Which one of you convicts me of sin?” And this progressing

ascent from the human to the divine was an exclusively mortal achievement. And when he had thus attained divinity, he was still the same human Jesus, the Son of Man as well as the Son of God.

You and I are human beings. We are mortal and we are lowly ~ as far as the ascension plan for created being like us. No one beneath us gets a Thought Adjuster. Jesus chose to become a human man and lived a human life exactly as we are asked to do. Let's recall all that He accomplished in His one short life here. They tell us that He portrayed a 'transcendent religious growth' all the way up until He left this world. What the Revs (Revelators) are telling us is that if we so desire we can also attain this kind of 'transcendent religious growth' in our lives as well. What and How did Jesus tell us to do? Well, it begins with child-like faith...not childish...but rather child-like. Then maintaining a thankful attitude with a quiet and still heart before God we patiently celebrate God in our hearts in bone-fide worship.

In time your Father will work with you as He sees fit. This is what Jesus taught His group to do. Nothing is any different for us. We are the sheep of His fold. We hear His voice and He knows us!

Say this: Please be aware of time as others may want to speak as well.

Question: Does anyone have something that they might like to share with everyone?

(Check the time if people are talking too long or if someone is dominating the conversation. Some may need to leave and you did set a begin/end time for the meeting. People might not come back if they think that their time won't be valued.)

Remind and invite people to write down any prayer needs on the cards before they go.

Pass out the 'Reflections' take home sheets.

Ending prayer:

Invite all to join in for The Lord's Prayer as Jesus taught it:

144:3.3 Our Father who is in heaven,

144:3.4 Hallowed be your name.

144:3.5 Your kingdom come; your will be done

144:3.6 On earth as it is in heaven.
144:3.7 Give us this day our bread for tomorrow;
144:3.8 Refresh our souls with the water of life.
144:3.9 And forgive us every one our debts
144:3.10 As we also have forgiven our debtors.
144:3.11 Save us in temptation, deliver us from evil,
144:3.12 And increasingly make us perfect like yourself.

Thank everyone and say good-bye.

End of meeting (on time)

Ideas for success:

Less is more! Shorter interesting meetings are far better than ones too long and boring.
Leading a group means that everyone gets a chance to talk if they want to.
Don't let the attention seeker who talks too much ruin the experience for everyone.
Respect those who want to remain silent. They'll talk when they want to.
PRACTICE YOUR SPEAKING IN THE MIRROR AT HOME WITH A STOPWATCH!
You are the leader! It is your responsibility to keep things moving, start and end on time!

When inviting people to your group just say, "Come over this week and meet some of my friends. We just have fun and talk a little bit about what Jesus taught."