Community Group Leader Guide

For the Week Of October 29, 2023

Sermon Series: The Church - Week 1

Watch the Leader Video and find all your resources online at <u>https://clifec.com/community-group-resources/</u> Need to watch the sermon? Check out our YouTube channel: <u>https://www.youtube.com/@CommunityLifeChurch</u>

Announcements:

1. **Women's Ministry Bloom Pop-Up:** November 11-17, a time for women to connect spiritually and socially. More Info https://clifec.com/women/)

2. **Blake's Run:** Saturday, November 11, 2023, our annual 5k/10k fun run. More Info https://clifec.com/blakes-run/

3. **Missions:** Trips go live on October 29, 2023. Consider signing up to serve. [More Info](https://clifec.com/missions/)

Icebreaker:

1. Share one significant event or experience that happened to you this past week.

Quick Review:

The sermon emphasized the "The Church" concept based on 1 Peter 2. Scriptures referenced include JN 15:16, 1 Peter 2:9, EPH 1:4-5, and MT 4:18-22. The sermon underscored that the church is a divinely assembled community, not a human-organized club.

Make It Personal:

1. 1 Peter 2:9 states that we are a "chosen race." How do you personally relate to the idea that Jesus found you and called you into the Church?

2. Matthew 4:18-22 describes Jesus calling his first disciples. How do you see this theme of calling in your own life and in the life of our church?

Go Deeper:

3. Ephesians 1:4-5 speaks of God choosing us for a holy purpose. How can we embrace the diversity within the church to fulfill that divine purpose?

4. How have you experienced the truth of John 15:16, which says, "You did not choose me, but I chose you," in your life?

5. The sermon pointed out that the Church should not be a subgroup within the political system or a glorified community center. What are your thoughts on the word "church" and its deeper meaning based on the sermon?

Action Steps:

1. Reflect on John 15:16 and identify one way you can help make the church more welcoming to people from different backgrounds.

2. With Ephesians 1:4-5 in mind, consider sharing your testimony with a trusted friend or family member, highlighting the moment Jesus pulled you out of the darkness.

Prayer Requests:

1. Pray for those in the community who are yet to find Jesus that they may be called out of darkness as described in 1 Peter 2:9.

2. Pray for the upcoming Women's Ministry event and Blake's Run, that they may be avenues for God's grace and love to flow.

Feel free to use this guide to facilitate discussion in your community group. Modify the questions as you see fit.