

Home Group Leader's Notes

April 23, 2017

Road Trip: Identify the destination – week 1

NOTES TO LEADERS: Please help your group understand that this series is about the relationships that we all have. The first message is all about 'Where are we going in life?'

Share It

What is your favorite road trip? Where did you go? What did you see? What did you experience?

Why is the topic of "family" important to everyone, regardless of age, marital status, etc.?

Study the Bible

Destination is job one. No one in history ever spoke about destination with more clarity and hope than Jesus. We will look at two of His freighted statements.

Read Matthew 22:36-40 (Known as the Great Commandment)

NOTES TO LEADERS: This famous passage is a great place to start talking about relationships and family. Family includes the family of God.

The word "love" is overused in our culture. What did Jesus say that we should love?

NOTES TO LEADERS: God first, people too.

What is your impression of what Jesus meant by the word "love?"

NOTES TO LEADERS: Jesus included every aspect of our lives – heart, soul, mind, energy. Thus, love is not a feeling – it is a commitment of the heart and life.

Why the dual emphasis (God and others)? How are the two connected?

NOTES TO LEADERS: This is a healthy question. Can you truly love God and not love others? (see 1 John 4). Can you truly love others and not love God?

Read Matthew 28:18-20 (Known as the Great Commission)

NOTES TO LEADERS: This commission is often misunderstood. Please reread in your time together.

What, specifically, did Jesus commission us to do? Where? What?

NOTES TO LEADERS: Central command = make disciples. That is, do what Jesus had been doing = helping others know, love, and follow Him.

The where = "while going". There is intentionality to be doing this wherever you are. From Acts 1:8, we know that the whole world needs to know. Wherever God takes us (and He does call us to go), we are to about the purpose of making disciples.

What promise is connected with this commissioning?

NOTES TO LEADERS: His presence, which includes His promises, His power, and His purpose.

Discuss Together

Why is the topic of "destination in life" seldom discussed? What makes it difficult? Do you do this?

NOTES TO LEADERS: We prefer to make our own path, to do whatever we want (very American). Sometimes people will talk about career, finances, etc. associated with their future. But rarely their ultimate destination or direction.

Why talk about these two passages in regard to destination? How are these helpful to family?

NOTES TO LEADERS: These are wonderful passages to 'put on your doorposts.' They focus on the importance of our relationships and how we can help people be followers of Jesus.

On Sunday, we heard that our "affections" and "mission" become anchors in life. How so?

NOTES TO LEADERS: Often, our affections or passions set the direction of our lives. Affections fuel mission and mission gives meaning to our affection.

Do you think that "making disciples" is for a select group of 'called' or 'gifted' people? (Matthew 28)

NOTES TO LEADERS: This has been the weakness of the church in America. For far too long, we have focused on a few people and failed to deploy the whole body of Christ. Every person has everything God wants to help US do the work of helping others know, love, and follow Jesus.

Praying for a great start to our new series,

Steve