

HOW TO RUIN YOUR LIFE

Week 4 - How To Ruin Your Witness

RECAP FROM LAST WEEK:

Were you able to complete last week's application steps?

- If you are married: What is one thing you can do this week to make Jesus the Lord of your home?
- If you are not married: What habits will you cultivate this week to ensure that Jesus will be the Lord over your family?

CONTENT:

Have you ever been afraid to bring up conflict to your co-worker, roommate, spouse, etc.? What happened?

Read Matthew 5:1-2 & 5:9.

Why does it say Jesus went up to the mountaintop and set down to preach?

LEADER'S NOTE: Contrary to what happens in our culture today, back in Biblical times it was accustomed for Jewish Rabbis to teach sitting down and for the people listening to be standing up.

What does he mean by saying the peacemakers will be called children of God?

LEADER'S NOTE: When we come to believe in Jesus we have peace with God because his blood has made atonement for our sins. Therefore, he has given us the right to be called children of God (John 1:12).

How would you define peace?

What things disturb your peace?

How do you handle conflict? Put yourself on a scale from avoiding conflict at all costs (0) to running into it whenever it comes up (10).

LEADER'S NOTE: Have the group members explain their reasoning for handling conflict the way they do.

Is there anyone you need to make peace with? What stops you?

Why do you think Jesus is called the Prince of Peace?

LEADER'S NOTE: There is more than one possible answer but at least one is that he is the one who has made peace between God and man through the blood of His cross.

With that in mind, read 2 Corinthians 5:18-19.

What does it mean that we have been given the message of reconciliation?

Have you ever considered the gospel as a message of peace?

APPLICATION:

What are you going to do this week to make peace in your relationships?

LEADER'S NOTE: This could be asking for forgiveness, forgiving someone, blessing someone in whom you are having or have been having conflict with, etc.

PRAYER:

Oh God, thank you for giving us true peace that can only be found in you. Help us to be your witnesses to the rest of the world by reflecting your peace to them. Thank you for reconciling us to yourself through Jesus. In Jesus name, amen.