

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Shadows: Week 4 — The Shadow of Isolation— 11.13.19

Purpose of Groups: For students to realize the people sitting around this circle can be “their people” — Figure out who your Peter James and John are — to bond more as a group

GROUP EXPECTATION: no interrupting, be respectful, no rude comments, encourage, what is said in group STAYS in group!

ICE BREAKER:

1. What are some of your favorite parts of Wednesday nights? Is it the worship, the message, the small group time, the hang out time? What is it for you? (**LEADER:** If they are new, ask them what they have liked the most tonight!)

MESSAGE REVIEW QUESTIONS:

1. How would you define the term “isolation?” (**FOLLOW UP:** When are times you have tried or did isolate yourself? What made you do that?)
2. Are there moments that you have felt completely alone in the darkness, completely alone walking through a tough time in life — what was that time? Would you be willing to share about that time?
3. Out of the three steps we see Jesus take in his hard time: Gather Your People, Talk To God, and Be Okay With God’s Answer — which is the one you struggle with the most?
4. **Gather Your People:** Who would you say are some of your closest friends? (**FOLLOW UP:** What makes them so close to you?)
 - a. Is it hard for you to open up to them when you struggle or are in darkness? IF THEY ANSWERED YES, why is that?
 - b. Do you have a Peter James and John in your life? Like your three CLOSEST friends that you tell everything to?
5. **Talk To God:** Where do you talk to God most? Is it just wherever you are, do you have a spot that you always go to, is it before bed, only at meals? Where is it for you?
 - a. If you had to kind of find a “Garden of Gethsemane” — somewhere you can be just you and God or you, God, and your close friends — a place to talk to him and not be distracted, where would that be?
6. **Be Okay with God’s Answer:** When you think about how we want God to answer our prayers and requests, have you ever been not satisfied with an answer?
 - a. What was that answer too?
 - b. Can you look back on that time and see how God actually used it for the better? How God took something that we see as bad, and he made good come from it? (Like with Jesus, yes Jesus had to die and suffer horribly, BUT because of what Jesus did, we get to be with God in heaven on day — it was good that came from something hard and painful)

7. **(NOT A QUESTION — CLOSING REMARKS)** As we end group, we want you to know that this group right here can be “your people.” We are here for you as leaders, but everyone around this circle is also here for you. You might even find your Peter James and John here. This group is meant to be a safe place where you can open up, feel welcomed, loved, and cared for. We are here for you and we want to be your community.

(From here, if time permits, you can do prayer requests or highs/lows)

PRAYER REQUESTS/PRAYING AS A GROUP
PLEASE STAY IN YOUR LOCATIONS TILL 8:20PM