

LIFTING UP Leaders

Exciting news just for leaders! Join us for our Healing Journey leaders' forum via ZOOM. I'll offer a short teaching followed by a Q&A. Saturday, October 5, 9:30-11:00 (MST). Zoom Link.

Words for the Journey

Podcast of the Week: How is Your Software Programmed

2024 Leader Letter Week 5

To Healing Journey Leaders:

Lesson 5, "Getting a Handle on the 3P's," introduces a foundational concept for the Healing Journey class, one that we build on every week. For that reason, it is essential that every student watch this lesson. I am dismantling the, at times, vague issue of "trusting God" down to the core elements of self-power, self-provision, and self-protection. These are helpful handles for students to begin to understand where the issue of trusting God is breaking down in their own life.

Healing can't happen unless God is in charge; and that won't happen if we don't trust him. In order to heal we have to believe God and apply his word, which is why completing the Journey Steps is critical. The Video lessons are important because they lay the foundation of truth from God's Word. The small group processing is a gift and very helpful because it gives us a place to wrangle, question, and receive support and encouragement. The real change, however, comes in doing the Journey Steps. Scripture says:

"Jesus Christ heals you." Acts 9:34b NIV

So we have to get alone with Jesus and invite him into our wounds and apply his Word. But getting our students to actually do that is one of our leaders' greatest challenges. I have included some suggestions for you at the end of this letter.

This week you will wrap up the 3 Beliefs Worksheets in group and students will begin organizing their story using the "Worksheet for Writing my Story." Encourage your group to take the full two weeks to prepare their story. They will need it. You are preparing to tell your story next week, so review the leader's notes on how to do this (see Class Facilitator Manual page 32 and Small Group Leader Guide page 20-22).

I pray the Lord will bless you for your perseverance with your group each week.

...Relax in the Lord and enjoy the journey!

Tip of the week:

Here is some food for thought regarding the issue of getting students to do their Journey Steps:

• Make sure you do **your** Journey Steps every week and always show up prepared.

- At the beginning of the year extol the great benefits of doing the homework.
- Every 4-5 weeks give both the large group and small groups a little pep talk about this.
- Invite unprepared students to verbally process worksheets with you right there on the spot.
- For the one who is utterly resistant to doing the Journey Steps ask questions like: "What comes up in you when you think about doing your homework?" or "Do you have any idea as to what your resistance might be about?" or "Would you be willing to start doing your Journey Steps this week?" Follow up questions with encouragement like: "My heart is for you to receive as much healing as possible this year."
- Use their "First Class Response" (Small Group Leader's Guide p.45), as ammunition to engage their will in order to get the healing they came for.
- Accept that you can't make anyone do anything; it is the student's choice to do their Journey Steps or not.
- For your student who refuses to participate in this, make sure you do not judge them. Maintaining an attitude of love and acceptance will be a greater help in the long run for their healing. Being there is better than not being there, even if they aren't doing the work.

Blessings,

Cynchy Sheswood

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