

LIFTING UP Leaders

Words for the Journey

Podcast of the Week: How do I Make the Right Choice?

Unless you are not yet at Week #5, your rosters are due now!

Please go to our website and fill out this <u>form</u>. This will greatly help us because it allows the information to be received in one location and in one format. Receiving your rosters is a win-win situation: it allows your students to receive my free newsletter and it allows us to build our support base which helps us expand this ministry. Our data base info is never shared with anyone, ever. Always ask for permission to be added to our newsletter list and explain the benefits.

2024 Leader Letter Week 6

To All Small Group Leaders of the Healing Journey Class:

For most of you, you are now in the midst of stories, either Week #6 when you share your story as their leader, or Week #7, when your small group shares their stories. My encouragement to you during this time is to simply **hold** fast to the Lord.

"You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see the deliverance the Lord will give you, O Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the Lord will be with you" (2 Chronicles 20:17 NIV).

These two weeks are like being on a ship in a storm; the ship is rocking and reeling and so are you! So picture yourself holding tightly to the mast, except imagine that the mast is Jesus. I know it is a bumpy ride—it always is—every time—every group—every year. What we're asking everyone to do is unpack the painful events of their entire life and talk about them! Some have NEVER done that!

But if you, as their leader, will stay calm, pray constantly, support, encourage, and help them work through their concerns, you will be a great asset to them through this process. What you're going through is what everyone goes through. Jesus will get you through the storm. Just hold steady and the storm will pass by the time you get to Week 8

Thank you for your willingness to walk this challenging territory with your students.

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

Tip of the week:

It is vitally important that Week 6 is handled well. Be sure every leader has watched the Training Video segment on stories. (Every small group leader needs their own Training Video.) Remember that you are modeling for the students what you expect of them next week, so be sure you follow the same rules—no exceptions! Review the sections pertaining to Week 6 & 7 in the Leader Guide and Class Facilitator Manual. Check in with everyone in

your group sometime before Week 7 to make sure they are doing okay. This is a common place to lose students, so stay close!

Looking ahead: Week 7 is a great time for your first fellowship meal. This really helps fight the temptation to skip class, particularly if it is a potluck and they are responsible for bringing something. I usually do about 4 meals throughout the year, about 1 every 7 weeks.

Blessings,

Cyncly Sherwood

His Healing Light Ministries' Director

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