

ICEBREAKER

We all follow something or someone in some way. What is the thing or person you tend to gravitate to follow for a) pleasure and b) learning God's Word?

SCRIPTURE READING

Read: Matthew 6:25-34

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

• HINA CLAUSE

Read: 1 Kings 2:2-4

A "so that" statement is what's known as a "hina" clause. It is a purpose clause used in conjunction with a subjunctive participle. A subjunctive participle sets the mood of a sentence. It indicates the possibility or probability that something might happen.

These are just a few "hina" clause verses. Read each verse and discuss which one speaks to you? Does knowing that it is a hina clause change how you understand the verse?

Galatians 3:23-24 : Jesus came so that...

2 Timothy 3:16 : God spoke so that...

Hebrews 4:16 : Pray so that...

James 1:2-4 : Trials come so that...

Matthew 5:16 : Let your light shine so that...

• BE STRONG. BE A MAN.

Read: Ephesians 4:11-14

God's Word would not call for us to be strong if carrying out our responsibilities to the Lord were easy. Being a Christian, if you have not figured it out yet, is going to be hard. You are going to make hard decisions and face difficult situations. Be strong! Fight against temptations. Be strong against the enemy's attacks in your life.

How have you overcome temptations and or attacks of the enemy in your life?

Do you have a "go to" verse that you recite when you find yourself in trials and struggles? If so, please share with the group the verse and the result of God intervening in your situation.

• GOD WILL PROSPER YOU

God has what you are seeking. God provides what you truly need. When we live for God's kingdom - we receive the blessings of God according to His Word... if we seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. When we follow His statutes, His commandments, His rules,

and His testimonies we will prosper according to the Word of God.

Read: 1 Kings 2:4
Philippians 4:19
Joshua 1:8
Psalm 1:1-3
Matthew 7:24-25

On the contrary, when we do not live according to God's ways and pay no attention to the advice (commands) of God, we put ourselves into the position of requiring discipline.

Recall a time in your life that someone gave you advice and you disregarded only to find yourself in a troublesome situation.

Share with the group of a time you knew what God's Word said to be true of a situation but you disregarded and did things your way. If you are comfortable discuss the process of the sin, repentance, discipline and blessing.

• LOVE, LOVE, LOVE

Read: Mark 12:28-31
John 13:34
1 Corinthians 13
Galatians 5:22-23

As we grow and mature in Christ, as we become and act like adults in our faith, we begin to think not only of ourselves but we think of others – and that is becoming more like Jesus.

Share about something you have done in the last few weeks that demonstrates the love of Jesus - an unselfish love, a love that serves. How was your act of love received?

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Ask the Lord to reveal to you things or people you follow that are hindering your faith journey and also ask how to prioritize, count the cost and stand firm on His promises so that you can go where He is leading you.

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

Do a HINA. Live love out loud **so that** you can be a blessing to others. Reread 1 Cor. 13 for directions on how to love.

THIS WEEK'S MISSIONARIES

Please keep our missionary family in Northern Asia in your prayers as this week's highlighted missionaries.

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