



SDG Discussion Guide

Luke 9:10-17

September 22, 2019

For Starters:

If someone looked under your bed or in your closet right now what would they find (suitcase, dust balls, neat storage, dead insects)? What might these items say about your personality?

How do you unwind when you return from work or a trip. Eat? Read? Sleep? Play? Movie? What about this helps you unwind?

If you had to choose one last meal before going to heaven, what food items would it include?

Guideline: The following is meant to provide an approach for further interaction with the respective sermon text and *surrounding passage*. Feel free to forward to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday. Group members may also find this write up in print on that Sunday.

First, as you can, read aloud the selected passage in your group. If you have time, read it aloud a second time - from a different Bible translation.

Before you begin your discussion, pray and ask God to speak to your group. Notice, what may God be highlighting for your discussion and learning?

Now that you have read the text together and prayed, what points and questions arise from your group? Spend plenty of time in your group to address these points and questions. Explore and see how God may give guidance in the discussion. The following are further questions you may use to guide your interaction with the text.

1. Why does Jesus take his disciples away with him upon his return?
2. How do you account for the difference in the way Jesus and the disciples view the crowd?
3. What was Jesus' motivation for teaching and healing on this day, even though he and his disciples seemed tired? How can we find a balance of attitude and service? When do we slow down or cease when the needs continue?
4. Why didn't Jesus create bread and fish from nothing? Why did he ask the disciples to find what they could? What is the significance of the command, "You give them something to eat"?
5. What thoughts must the disciples have as they collect the leftovers?
6. What difficulties have you had in surrendering yourself to be part of this ministry process of assessing the need, bringing your resources to Jesus, placing them in his hands, and receiving the power to meet needs beyond yourself?
7. When have you experienced God in an unusual way? What happened?
8. From what do you need a rest: Work hassles? Family? Church activities? Community activities? School deadlines? How would you cope if instead, God gave you... a new challenge?

Come Holy Spirit. Help us to pray. Awaken in us a real hunger to turn to you once more for our every provision. Meet us where we need you most, Lord. Please meet our spiritual hunger once more with only the nourishment you can provide. Help us to assess the needs around us, to bring our resources to you, place them in his hands, and receive your power to meet these needs beyond ourselves. Help us this week to be a blessing to others as you continue to bless us. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.