

BIG IDEA SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Small groups that focus on the Big Idea for the week can use this guide to apply the message to life and take action. Feel free to use whatever parts of this guide best fit your group personality and time frame. Do NOT feel like you have to use every question. All verses, unless otherwise noted, are from the New International Version (NIV).

6.7/8.09 // 90 DAYS

BiG iDEA: We have one purpose: to be one body with one example that gives us one goal: obedience to God.

// Ice Breaker _____

Option 1: What habit(s) would you like to break? How long have you been participating in this habit? How long should it take to break?

Option 2: What goals do you have for this summer? What would you like to accomplish?

// Questions for Discussion _____

1 There are millions of people in this world that like the idea of Jesus, but have a really bad taste for church...mostly because people say one thing and do another. They "do the God thing" on the weekends, but live as frauds or hypocrites or "double agents" the rest of the week. Don't we have an obligation and an opportunity to do something about it? Do you know anyone living a double life like that? What impression do you have of that person? What impression do others have?

2 People can accomplish great things when they rally around one purpose. What examples can you think of? What purpose does the church have?

John 17:21

[Jesus praying] "May they (disciples, us) be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me."

Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

2 Corinthians 5:20

We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

3 The church is the body of Christ. He is the head; He's in charge. We are his hands and feet to carry on the work that he did while on this earth. When the world looks at the church, they're supposed to see God at work. Though we all have different roles to play, we each are needed to make the body able to carry out its purpose. What does the church look like when each member of the body is playing its part? How about when one or some of the members are not fulfilling their function?

1 Corinthians 12:4-27

⁴There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.

⁷Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ... ¹¹All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.

¹²The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. ... ¹⁵If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹If they were all

one part, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts, but one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" ²²On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable.... But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, ²⁵so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. ²⁷Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

4 Jesus is our one example. A disciple follows in the footsteps of his/her leader/master/mentor. What are some things we would be doing differently/better if we modeled our everyday lives after Jesus?

John 13:15-16

¹⁵I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. ¹⁶I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.

1 John 2:6

Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.

Luke 19:10

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.

5 Our one goal is obedience to God. We need to obey like Jesus did so that God's good works may be evident to all. When we obey God we're showing them what God looks like. What areas of your life are you struggling with in obedience?

Matthew 5:15-16

¹⁵Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

6 What are some ways you can shift:

- **Your heart? What will spending time with God do for our hearts?**
- **Your home? What will demonstrate to our families that God is most important?**
- **Refresh? How can we better enjoy the abundant life Jesus gives?**
- **Our communities? How can we take the church outside the walls of the building?**
- **Our world? How can we help with the pains, problems and injustices of the world?**
- **In worship? How can it be more than just a time of singing on the weekend?**

If we develop the desire and habit of being the best at these elements, you'll begin to shift the world around you and be a healthier Christian. And more importantly, to not live lives as double agents--showing the world two different pictures of God.

// Application _____

- **Commit to memory Philippians 2:12**

Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling....

- **Pick up the 90 Days devotional book, or get a digital version emailed next week. Interact online at www.90daysAtshift.com. Watch the video blogs, send in what you're doing to shift your world, get the journal, find out about other events, see what Church Norris has to say and check out the t-shirts.**

// Prayer _____

Pray that we can shift our hearts, homes, communities and the world more toward Jesus over the 90 days of summer.

Pray that we can show the world what God is really like, and spread His gospel of grace and love.