



WELCOME TO THE SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE

HOST: AT YOUR FIRST GROUP MEETING, TEAR THIS SHEET OFF TO BEGIN EXPERIENCE

HOST, PLEASE READ ALOUD:

Welcome to the RESET group experience.

This journey is all about “resetting” our assumptions, or any false understandings we might have of Jesus. This will involve a lot of learning, introspection and truth seeking. It will also be a lot of fun.

The seeking journey is all about being willing to keep our eyes open for things that we might not have seen before. So whether we’re new to the whole Jesus thing or we’ve been following Jesus for decades, we need to assume the posture of a seeker. To do this, we have to be willing to look at the evidence and see if it lines up with our experiences, or if along the way we’ve accumulated assumptions and baggage about Jesus.

When you are finished reading,
TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Host,

KEEP READING:

This group is where we'll process much of our RESET experience, so by the end we'll all probably know each other pretty well. To begin that process, we're going to take a few minutes to get to know each other better. Whether you've known each other for five years or five minutes, you'll probably discover something new about the person sitting next to you.

It's time to break the ice.

Don't worry—we'll make this easy. All you'll have to do is fill in a few blanks. We'll give you just a couple of minutes, and a little thinking music.

Select "Icebreaker" from the DVD menu, be honest with your answers, and then everyone share what they wrote, starting with the tallest person in the room and moving clockwise.



WATCH DVD **ICEBREAKER**



(Don't stray too far from the DVD player when you're finished. You'll have one more segment to watch in a few minutes.)

When you're finished with the Icebreaker,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Host,

PLEASE READ OUT LOUD:

Now we're going to take a few minutes to go over the "Small Group Ground Rules" (located in the appendix to the guide, on page 109).

Go around the room, each person reading one rule. Agreeing to this stuff will help everyone get the most out of the RESET journey. Once you've read and agreed to the ground rules, move on to the next step.

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Watch the "Week 1" segment of the DVD.



WATCH DVD **WEEK 01**



When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Host, hand this pad to the person with the closest birthday.

Congratulations, near-birthday person.

PLEASE READ THE REST OF THIS SHEET OUT LOUD:

It's time to share where we're coming from, and what we hope to discover on this journey.

Now, share as much as you'd like from what you wrote down in your guide for Prompt 01—just remember to leave enough time for everyone to talk. In case you didn't bring your guide or haven't completed Prompt 01 yet, here's the question:



Who do you consider Jesus to be, and what questions do you hope to have answered over the course of this journey?

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Whoever has the pad,

PLEASE READ THESE DIRECTIONS OUT LOUD:

Host, grab a Bible and look up Luke 12:51. **Read it out loud.**



READ FROM BIBLE

LUKE 012:51

Then, the person on the Host's left look up and read Luke 14:26-27.



READ FROM BIBLE

LUKE 014:26-27

One more—the next person to the left read Luke 17:33.



READ FROM BIBLE

LUKE 017:33

After everyone's read their passages, keep reading:

Jesus' actual words can be unsettling. Consider anything you've read so far in the book of Luke, heard on the weekend, or saw earlier on the DVD that stands out to you, seems confusing, or maybe even upsets you. **Talk with the group about what comes to mind.** (If you're stuck, share what you wrote for Prompt 02 in the guide.)



SHARE WITH THE GROUP

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Please ask the person sitting closest to the door to

READ THE FOLLOWING, OUT LOUD:

This journey will be about more than listening to interesting information and writing in a guide. It will also be about action. Each week, every person will receive one action-oriented challenge related to the topic of the upcoming week. None of these challenges will require much in the way of time, resources or planning, but they will require you to engage.

Make sure to complete this challenge at some point during the week, before your next meeting. If you don't, you'll be missing out on a significant part of this journey, and will be shortchanging someone else's learning, too.

Beneath this sheet are enough challenge cards for everyone in the group. **Everyone tear off just one, and pass the pad along to the next person.** (If you're looking over your neighbors' shoulders, you might notice that there are three different challenges. Just take one—not one of each, Mr. Overachiever.)

That's it. See you next week!



HAND OUT CHALLENGE FOR

WEEK 02

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET,

PASS THE PAD AROUND SO EACH MEMBER
OF THE GROUP GETS A CHALLENGE SHEET.



HOST:

WHEN YOU ARE READY TO
BEGIN THE WEEK 2 GROUP MEETING,
TEAR OFF THIS SHEET.

HOST, PLEASE READ ALOUD:

Welcome back to the RESET group experience. Last week, you received an **Unfairness Challenge** to complete prior to this meeting. Today, we'll begin by sharing what happened.

Everyone share what you actually did in response to your challenge, how the person on the receiving end of your "unfairness" reacted (if you know), and how completing the challenge challenged you.

The person wearing the most red should go first. Then, that person gets to pick who goes next, and so on. (Seems unfair, doesn't it? That's kind of the point. Duh.)



SHARE WITH THE GROUP

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Watch the "Week 2" segment of the DVD.



WATCH DVD **WEEK 02**



When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON




Hello, whoever is holding the pad.


Please ask the person on your right to:

READ THIS, OUT LOUD:

This week we've taken a close look at Jesus' uniqueness, and how—thanks to him—God gives us great stuff, and some big breaks we don't deserve. This is Grace.

Now, everyone share with the group your answer to one of the following questions:

 **When was a time you were let off the hook for something big?** (Hint: that's Prompt 03 in your guide. Maybe you wrote about it already. If not, wing it.)

 **If you've already completed Prompt 04 in your guide this week, what was that experience like? How did burning that list make you feel?** (Hopefully you didn't also burn your fingers.)

The person with the longest hair goes first. (Nose hairs don't count. But, seriously, trim those suckers. That's gross.)

Everyone feel free to discuss and respond to one another's stories.

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Whoever's middle name comes first alphabetically,

READ THIS, OUT LOUD:

Hopefully you've experienced something over the past week or two that has provoked you, challenged you, or forced you to recognize an assumption you might not have realized you'd been carrying around. So, whether it was something you heard during a weekend message or on the DVD, or something you wrote about in your guide, **share something that you're questioning, wrestling with or processing right now.**

Everyone share something with the group. Whoever has a tattoo (or has really seriously considered getting one) is brave enough to go first. C'mon, 'fess up. You don't have to show it.

Keep in mind that no one in the group is expected to have all the answers, and no one likes that person who pretends to have all the answers. So be honest, and feel free to share your perspectives on others' questions, but don't monopolize the conversation or insist on the final word. Remember those ground rules, people.



SHARE WITH THE GROUP

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



HOST, PLEASE READ THIS OUT LOUD:

Before everyone leaves, mark your calendars and make a plan for your Week 6 group meeting. Instead of a normal gathering, this one should be a blowout, dinnertime party at someone's house. So find a babysitter, decide who'll bring what, and get ready to celebrate. There's good stuff ahead.

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Beneath this sheet are enough challenge cards for everyone in the group. Everyone tear off just one, and pass the pad along to the next person.

Make sure to complete this challenge at some point during the coming week, before your next meeting. You'll be totally busted if you don't.

See you next week!



HAND OUT CHALLENGE FOR

WEEK 03

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET,

PASS THE PAD AROUND SO EACH MEMBER
OF THE GROUP GETS A CHALLENGE SHEET.



HOST:

WHEN YOU ARE READY TO
BEGIN THE WEEK 3 GROUP MEETING,
TEAR OFF THIS SHEET.

HOST, PLEASE READ ALOUD:

Welcome back, everybody. Last week you were issued a Countercultural Challenge to complete before this meeting. Hopefully no one had to turn the other cheek literally (getting smacked once is bad enough), but hopefully everyone experienced something stretching.

Begin this week by sharing which challenge you received, and what actually happened.

Everyone must participate, and the person who had to take music lessons the longest goes first.



SHARE WITH THE GROUP

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Watch the "Week 3" segment of the DVD.



WATCH DVD **WEEK 03**



When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Give this pad to the person with the most loose change in their pocket or purse.

What's up, Moneybags?

PLEASE READ THIS, OUT LOUD:

This week in your guide you listed the things in your life you try to control or protect, and considered whether or not there might be underlying fears associated with that desire for control. Control and protection aren't always bad things—self-discipline is important, and looking both ways before you cross the street is just smart—but you might have identified some areas where the thought of losing control really stresses you out. That's not so good.

Talk about what you discovered this week, and any potential action steps you could take to surrender some control where you're holding the reins a little too tightly.

(Even if you haven't worked through your prompts yet this week, you can share an area of your life where you know you strive really hard for control, and what it might feel like if you lost that control.)



SHARE WITH THE GROUP

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Whoever has the pad,

PLEASE READ THESE DIRECTIONS OUT LOUD:

Host, grab a Bible and look up Luke 5:27-28. **Read it out loud.**



READ FROM BIBLE

LUKE 005:27-28

Then, the person on the Host's left look up and read Luke 9:57-62.



READ FROM BIBLE

LUKE 009:57-62

One more—the next person to the left read Luke 18:18-30.



READ FROM BIBLE

LUKE 018:18-30

When you are finished reading,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



After everyone's read their passages,

KEEP READING:

Some of Jesus' words can seem pretty harsh. And even if you've made the decision to "accept" Jesus, the thought of actually surrendering control and *following* him can be intimidating, even scary.



Talk about statements like these—or any perceptions you have of Jesus—that keep you from surrendering yourself to him more fully, or even wanting to surrender to him at all. (Hint: that's Prompt 04 in your guide this week.)

-OR-



Talk about a time when you actually did surrender something to God (even if you were scared or unsure) and it turned out really well. What did you learn? How did it feel?

Everyone pick a question to answer, and share your thoughts. The most vertically challenged person in the group goes first. Sorry, Shorty.

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Beneath this sheet are enough challenge cards for everyone in the group. Everyone tear off just one, and pass the pad along to the next person.

Make sure to complete this challenge at some point during the coming week, before your next meeting.

See you next week!



HAND OUT CHALLENGE FOR

WEEK 04

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET,

PASS THE PAD AROUND SO EACH MEMBER
OF THE GROUP GETS A CHALLENGE SHEET.



HOST:

WHEN YOU ARE READY TO
BEGIN THE WEEK 4 GROUP MEETING,
TEAR OFF THIS SHEET.

HOST, PLEASE READ OUT LOUD:

Welcome back. Last week you were issued a Receiving Challenge to complete before this meeting. Hopefully no one got lost in a graveyard. But if you did, hey—now you've got a good story to tell.

We'll begin this week by talking about our experiences with the challenge.

Remember: everybody needs to share, so don't go on and on (and on). Whoever had the shortest drive (or walk) to a cemetery goes first.



SHARE WITH THE GROUP

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Watch the "Week 4" segment of the DVD.



WATCH DVD **WEEK 04**



When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Host, pass the pad to the person sitting the farthest from you.

Hello, Keeper-of-Distances. (Does the Host stink?) Anyway,

PLEASE READ THIS, OUT LOUD:

Many of us have been brought up with the notion that if there is a God, we certainly have to be good and jump through some hoops to appease him; and if we want to impress him or get into heaven, well then, buddy, we better get crackin' on some really good deeds. Resetting this idea and realizing that no amount of hard work will get us closer to God can be difficult to accept.

God's love must be received, not earned.

We all want good stuff, but receiving can be hard. Thankfully, Jesus talked a lot about the ways we can receive from God. In your guide this week, you worked through several comparisons that reveal the nature of the relationship God wants to have with us.

Everyone share an insight you gained from working through your guide prompts this week, or talk about a way you were challenged. Maybe you identified with one of the four receiving metaphors—the soil, the children, the vine and branches or the two sons—or even understood God's grace for the first time. Talk about any of that.

Whoever's had the most cups of coffee today, calm down and go first.



SHARE WITH THE GROUP

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Host, choose someone to

READ ALOUD:

Since receiving can be tough, let's practice. Everyone take a couple of minutes in silence to consider the character, strengths and gifts you've observed in your fellow group members. Ask God to bring to mind words of love and encouragement for others in your group.

Next, focus on just one person at a time, and share a few words of affirmation with them. It's not important that everyone speaks on every turn, or that the words be super deep. It is important that everyone listens and receives when they are the focus. And it's OK if you've only known each other for a few weeks—by now you've noticed something about everyone that you can share.

FYI: sometimes God speaks to us through other people, but not necessarily everything you'll hear will be from God. That's OK. As you listen to what others have to say, ask God to make clear to you anything he might want you to receive from him through the words of your group.

GOOD EXAMPLES:

"I've noticed that whenever someone gives you a compliment, you graciously say 'thank you' and I think that's cool."

"You've been very open with the group so far, and your vulnerability has encouraged me to share my story."

"You are always on time. I admire that."

STATEMENTS TO AVOID

"Nice shirt."

"You don't smell as bad tonight as you did last week."

"Your wife is way hotter than mine. Way to go."

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Whoever's holding the pad, choose someone who hasn't talked much to read this sheet out loud.

So you're the strong, silent type, eh? Nice. Here's something to read that won't hurt a bit:

HERE'S WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO. EVERYONE PAY ATTENTION.

01 Everyone get a piece of paper and write down something you're struggling with right now. It might be a relationship, an illness, a difficult situation at work or an inner conflict. It must be something about you, not someone else.

02 Write your name on your paper and give it to the Host.

03 Host, place all the paper in a bowl or hat, and let each person draw one out. If anyone draws his or her own piece of paper, throw it back and draw again.

04 Everyone should have received one piece of paper and there shouldn't be any left. This is called Math.

05 Once each person is holding someone else's issue, it's a prayer request. For the next week, pray for this person's request every day. (Include it in the "A" part of your challenge this week; you'll understand in a minute.)

06 Feel free to ask the person whose request you received to share more info, but no one should feel obligated to do so. God knows the situation. Seriously.

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Whoever has the pad,

READ THIS OUT LOUD:

REMEMBER: you're having dinner with your group for your last meeting in two weeks. Everyone should bring something. You should try to get a babysitter if you have kids. This will be a party. It'll be fun. Don't be lame and miss it.

Got it? Good.

OK, now for the challenge cards.

Beneath this sheet are enough challenge cards for everyone in the group. Everyone tear off just one, and pass the pad along to the next person.

Make sure to complete this challenge over the course of the coming week, before your next meeting. Adios.



HAND OUT CHALLENGE FOR

WEEK 05

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET,

**PASS THE PAD AROUND SO EACH MEMBER
OF THE GROUP GETS A CHALLENGE SHEET.**



HOST:

WHEN YOU ARE READY TO
BEGIN THE WEEK 5 GROUP MEETING,
TEAR OFF THIS SHEET.

HOST, PLEASE READ ALOUD:

Welcome back. Last week you were issued a Prayer Challenge to complete before this meeting. We'll begin this week by talking about that experience.

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What was it like to pray using the P-R-A-Y model?

?

What did it feel like to pray for someone else each day, and to know someone else was praying for you?

Everybody share what happened this week, even if you weren't able to complete the challenge. Whoever showed up last to today's meeting goes first. (See? The last shall be first after all.)



SHARE WITH THE GROUP

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Watch the "Week 5" segment of the DVD.



WATCH DVD **WEEK 05**



When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Host, choose someone to

READ ALOUD:

Prayer can be a mysterious thing. We can learn a lot about it by hearing others' experiences, because no two people's prayer lives are the same. God relates to us uniquely.

Share with the group your most significant moment or powerful experience in prayer. Maybe that happened years ago, or maybe it happened this week. Maybe you've been praying regularly since you were a young kid, or maybe you were just compelled to pray once and you don't know why. No matter your history with prayer, there's probably an occasion that sticks out in your mind. Talk about that.

Reader, the person to your left goes first.



SHARE WITH THE GROUP

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Whoever has the pad,

PLEASE READ THESE DIRECTIONS OUT LOUD:

Host, grab a Bible and look up Luke 18:1-8. **Read it out loud.**



READ FROM BIBLE

LUKE 018:01-08

Then, the person on the Host's left read Ephesians 6:18.



READ FROM BIBLE

EPHES. 006:18

One more—the next person to the left read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.



READ FROM BIBLE

1 THESS. 005:16-18

When you are finished reading,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



After everyone's read their passages,

KEEP READING:

A key refrain in these passages seems to be: keep on praying. Don't stop. Keep it up. Pray continuously.

Praying continuously is something that sounds impossible for someone who's not a Zen-master or a Buddhist monk. Assuming you have neither of those in your group, you might feel at a loss for examples of how to pray continuously. But this mindset, this way of life, is something that can be cultivated over time.

It's time to process out loud for a bit. **Share with the group what you think praying continuously could look like, and any practical ways you think you could incorporate prayer throughout your day.**

Whoever wants to share can go first. That's right. We're looking for a volunteer here, people.



SHARE WITH THE GROUP

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Please hand the pad to the Host.

HOST, PLEASE READ THIS OUT LOUD:

You're five weeks into your six-week journey. Hopefully you've been challenged and engaged. You've had plenty to chew on over the last five weeks, so we're going to take a few minutes now to talk about whatever is on your mind.

Everyone share whatever's top-of-mind for you right now, wherever you are on your Jesus journey. You might share what happened for you during this week's Prayer Challenge, or any reactions you've had recently to the weekend, your guide prompts or the DVD.

Whoever's wearing the most green, go for it.



SHARE WITH THE GROUP

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Beneath this sheet are enough challenge cards for everyone in the group. Everyone tear off just one, and pass the pad along to the next person. You know the drill—make sure to complete this challenge over the course of the coming week, before your next meeting.

Also, remember that you'll be meeting for dinner next week. Take a few minutes before everyone leaves to discuss your group's plans and tie up any loose ends.



HAND OUT CHALLENGE FOR

WEEK 06

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET,

PASS THE PAD AROUND SO EACH MEMBER
OF THE GROUP GETS A CHALLENGE SHEET.



HOST:

WHEN YOU ARE READY TO
BEGIN THE WEEK 6 GROUP MEETING,
TEAR OFF THIS SHEET.

Watch the "Week 6" segment of the DVD.



WATCH DVD **WEEK 06**



When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



HOST, READ ALOUD:

It's time to celebrate.

Jesus told his followers that whenever they sit down to a meal, they should remember him. At the last supper He had with his disciples, Jesus broke bread and poured wine as symbols of how his body would be broken and his blood poured out for them. That was the beginning of Communion. It wasn't any fancier than that. And for followers of Jesus, it continues to this day.

Take a couple of minutes now to remember Jesus, and to thank him in prayer for the good things he's given you. Feel free to keep it short and sweet, and anyone who wants to pray is welcome to join in. Host, please open and close the prayer.

Now it's time to have a party. Celebrate the journey you've been on together, and what Jesus did (and still does) for every one of you. Go have some dinner. **After everyone's gotten their food and found a seat, move on to the next sheet.**



CHEERS

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Whoever sat down last,
PLEASE READ THIS:

Jesus is alive and active in the world today through his body, the Church. And just like our own bodies rely upon the unique contributions of each of their parts, so does the Church. Here's how the apostle Paul—the author of many of the books of the New Testament of the Bible—described it in one of his letters to the early church in Corinth, Greece:

The body is not made up of one part but of many. Now if 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. And 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. If 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? But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:14-18 (TNIV)

This week you were challenged to create something "uniquely you" to share with the group. Whatever you brought to the group—even if it's really simple—is just an illustration of how everyone benefits when you bring yourself fully and uniquely into community. That's how the Church operates.



While you eat, take turns sharing what you brought with the group. Start with the Host and move clockwise around the room.

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



Whoever is holding the pad, pick someone to

READ THIS OUT LOUD:

Over the past six weeks you've reset some assumptions about Jesus, grappled with the grace he offers us, been challenged to surrender to him and live counter-culturally, experimented with prayer, and maybe come to a new understanding of Jesus and the kingdom he came to establish.

Hopefully—regardless of where you are right now—these six weeks have been just the beginning.

Everyone share one or two ways you'll live differently as a result of this journey. (Hint: this was Prompt 04 in your guide this week.)

If you feel like there are barriers to any of the changes you want to make, share those, too, and what you'll plan to do to overcome them. Remember, prayer (asking God to make changes in you) and community (asking for others' support) are two of the most important components of meaningful life change.

Whoever wants to share first can go for it.



SHARE WITH THE GROUP

When you are finished,

TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND MOVE ON



HOST, READ ALOUD:

This is the end of the RESET journey, but it doesn't have to be the end of your own journey, or the end of your group's time together. Before everyone leaves, take a few minutes to consider whether or not you'd like to continue meeting together and become an ongoing small group.

If you're on the fence about the small group thing, just try it! It doesn't have to be 'til-death-do-you-part. It's perfectly OK if not all of you can commit to an ongoing group, but really consider continuing to meet weekly (or bi-weekly) to learn more about how to be the Church, together.

Here are a couple of ideas for next steps:

DO A GROUP PROJECT TOGETHER. Consider each other's individual gifts and passions, and decide on something to do together a few weeks from now. Everyone take part in the planning and preparation. If you're looking for ideas on what to do, you might reference Prompt 03 in your guide this week.

REGROUP IN ONE MONTH TO SHARE CONTINUED LEARNING. It's likely that some of the questions you had at the beginning of this journey were never answered, or that some new ones came up. Everyone pick a question or two to research and consider, and then regroup in a month to share what you've learned. The reading recommendations in the appendix to your guide might be a good starting point for the questions you have.

You're finished with the RESET journey.

CONGRATULATIONS.