

## ***REFLECTION***

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR GROUP LEADERS**

1. Open with a prayer; include asking God to guide the discussion.
2. Ask a church member to take notes of the discussion including any prayer requests. Ask if the person will also present a summary of their notes later.
3. Read the question aloud. (However, do not feel that all questions must be addressed. See #10)
4. Facilitate the discussions by letting the others speak, but do not require anyone to speak.
5. If you feel you must talk because no one else will, remain silent. Pray.
6. Reject the temptation to dominate the discussion, however strong it is. Develop a signal with your co-leader to alert each other if one of you begins talking too much. Repeating the question may be one way.
7. If you find someone else is dominating the discussion, politely reaffirm their point and restate the question asking for others' thoughts.
8. Be mindful of the presence of the Holy Spirit and pay attention.
9. The point of the weekend is for the church members to get to know each other better and grow together, not to know you better.
10. Be aware of the time. If the discussion is lively or thoughtful, don't feel pressured to have the group answer all the questions. Bring the discussion to an end with enough time to pray at the end.
11. Close with a prayer circle, going around the circle for prayers. Give those who don't care to pray aloud the opportunity to pray silently then signal the next person they are finished (hand squeeze, for example).
12. Thank your group and invite them to attend all remaining events.

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### **Getting Started**

1. Open with a prayer.
2. Sit in a circle as much as possible.
3. Someone from church, preferably, will take brief notes on discussion to report to entire group when regathered.
4. Reminder: It is okay to listen to the discussion. No one is required to speak, but your experiences and thoughts are very much appreciated.
5. Going around the room, everyone answers the following
  - Your name
  - What service you usually attend; or if you are a visitor, what church you attend

### **For Discussion**

1. Did anyone help with the weekend preparations? What did you do?
2. What did you find meaningful in the speakers' talks?
3. What area would you like to grow in your own spiritual life?

### **Closing**

Close with the prayer circle. Remember if you don't care to pray aloud, you may pray silently.