
D-Group Leaders Guide

OUR TEXT: Hebrews 11:21

GOAL FOR THE NIGHT: Our goal for the night is to look at the blessing of Jacob to the two sons of Joseph, Manasseh and Ephraim. We discussed our identity as disciples of Christ and the power of our words– from empty words of mere lips service (cf. Matthew 15:8) to encouraging words of edification (cf. Ephesians 4:29).

HELP GET THINGS GOING: After watching tonight’s devotional together, here are some questions you can ask your group. Don’t be afraid to call on people to answer, that way the quiet ones get a chance to engage and the talkative ones don’t get the chance to dominate.

Q: Read Luke 10:20. David mentioned that when we know our new name, we are transformed as we walk in the power of that name. Think of the names God calls you in the Bible: beloved, friend, ambassador, His body. How does this empower your purpose and meaning in life?

Q: Read James 3:1-12. What illustration from this passage is most striking to you, why? How is it that we can lose awareness of how powerful our words can be? What helps us grow in that awareness?

Q: David discussed Jacob’s staff and Peter’s rooster as symbolizes of God’s authority and a reminder of our steadfastness (cf. 2 Peter 3:17-18). What should be our response when we realize the Bible is God speaking and is authoritative in our lives?

OTHER THOUGHTS: When we recognize the our identity in Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit within us we learn to place a tremendous value upon our “name” in Christ– Christian. And we will hold our words to a holy standard. We will live a life under the authority of God seeking to not take His name in vain by claiming His Holy Word with heartless lips. We will recognize who He calls us and it will be one of the driving forces within our life to walk worthy of that name (cf. 1 Peter 2:9-10).

Spend a few moments reflecting on areas in your life where you’re most tempted to lose control of your tongue (sarcasm, anger, jealous, etc.). Ask God to show you how you can redeem those moments so that your words are life-giving and encouraging. Share with the group one way you plan to submit your heart to God for the sake of shaping the words that come out of it.

I will worship toward Your holy temple,
And praise Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your truth;
For You have magnified Your word above all Your name.

–Psalm 138:2