

**Group Leader Guide – November 3, 2024****Group Announcements:**

- **Live Worship Recording – Nov 8 @ 6 pm with Clayton Hackett – invite everyone**
- If you would like to Host a group in the next season let your group leader know and attend the training - Jan 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- At the end of your group ask if anyone would like to get baptized – use the applications you received in your email or pick some up in the coffee shop on Sunday

**Attendance:**

- Group leaders please submit your attendance by person's name through our Leader Tools page [admin.winacity.com/leader-tools](http://admin.winacity.com/leader-tools) - no later than the day after your group meets

**FELLOWSHIP:**

During this time, you may plan for food. This could be anything from just snacks to a full dinner.

Use your group chat and create a place where people can be informed of the times for your group and also what to bring for food.

Games are also appropriate. Youtube and Google have many games listed that you can choose from.

**WARM UP:**

As a starting point for your group discussion, you may want to ask some questions that will get people talking and help share about themselves.

- What have you believed about Water Baptism till now? Have you been baptized before you received Christ?– **10 min total time for discussion**

**LEARN IT:**

- **Read** - 1 Peter 3:20–21 (NASB95)

*<sup>20</sup> who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water.*

- **Read** - 1 Corinthians 10:1–2 (NASB95)

*<sup>1</sup> For I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that our fathers were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea; <sup>2</sup> and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea*

**How do the stories of the Flood and the Exodus in the Bible symbolize and foreshadow the sacrament of Baptism? Allow 3-5 min for discussion**

**Leader Note:** The Exodus symbolized the righteousness of the people of Israel in the eyes of God. The Flood symbolized the righteousness of Noah's family coming out of the waters. The waters in both stories do not wash sin away but rather represent a coming out of sin.

**SHARE IT:**

- Baptism symbolizes our **engrafting into Christ**

**Read:** Galatians 3:27 (NASB95) <sup>27</sup> *For all of you who were **baptized into Christ** have clothed yourselves with Christ.*

At salvation we are grafted into the family of Christ. Baptism represents this. We now are rooted into and draw our life from Christ Himself. **How does the fact that we are engrafted into Christ and not a particular church, affect your view of Christianity? Do you draw your life and encouragement from a particular church or directly from Jesus?** **3-5 min discussion**

- Baptism symbolizes our **forgiveness of sins**

**Read:** Matthew 3:11 (NASB95)

<sup>11</sup> "As for me, **I baptize you with water for repentance**, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

**John the Baptist refused to baptize the Pharisees because they had not yet repented. Baptism without the prerequisite of repentance is pointless. Do you have friends or relatives who believe they are going to heaven because they were baptized as a child? Could you share with them the reality of needing to receive Jesus as a personal Savior to enter Heaven?** **5 min discussion**

#### **LIVE IT:**

We are called Kings & Priests unto God because we now have Jesus blood flowing through our spiritual veins. We receive this privilege through salvation and publicly declare it through Baptism. **What thoughts come to mind when we say we are royalty and priests in His Kingdom?** **Allow 3-5 min for discussion**

- How is our self-talk in comparison to the one of a king
- How is our worship and daily life in comparison to the one of a priest

#### **PRAY:**

**Use a group chat (WhatsApp, Messenger etc.) and add everyone in your group. As prayer requests are given in the group time, make one message with all the prayer requests and post it in the chat. Encourage everyone to pray for the needs throughout the week. You may also post daily encouragement for everyone like scripture verses, encouraging thoughts, spontaneous hangouts etc.**

- spend about 5 min collecting prayers in your group chat / 10 min for prayer
- Share testimonies with each other; you may send them to [stella@winacity.com](mailto:stella@winacity.com) so we can encourage the church
- give each group member a chance to pray

#### **Suggestion:**

- You may lay hands on people who need healing, after you have asked for permission.
- You may also take communion together
- If you have the space and availability, you may do a time of worship

#### **Suggested timeframes for your group:**

- 20-30 minutes for fellowship
- 10-15 minutes for Warm up
- 30 minutes for the study
- 10-15 minutes for sharing needs and prayer