



LEADER
DEVELOPMENT
GROUPS

CHARACTER | SESSION 7

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OVERVIEW

This session will be a good test of how open your group has become. When your group members identify their biggest character flaws, you'll know if they are trying to protect an image or truly opening up and exposing themselves to group. Those who make a genuine effort to share even the worst side of themselves need your encouragement.

First, ask questions and drill down to make sure they've truly revealed the issue in its entirety. For example, you may have someone confess he has visited a "porn site or two." But, when challenged, he admits a pornography addiction or even an extra-marital affair. The challenge for the mentor is to skillfully and tactfully lean into a person who seems to be less than fully transparent. Redemption and healing cannot truly begin until sin is brought into the light.

Pray, ask, listen, challenge, and dig as much as you feel you can in this setting. Spiritual growth could likely be on the other side of being challenged.

Also, loneliness is a theme that may show up in this discussion. And there are good reasons: they give their work so much energy, then they have to be husbands and dads, and there are expectations from church, from their parents, and in their community. Before long, it's easy to become isolated, as they have been playing roles but rarely having genuine relationships with other men.

This practice of airing out the ugly parts of ourselves will be new. And while we should approach our group members with love, this is a time you can be a little bit more direct.

Let's face it: we all have some dirty laundry, even if it's our thought life but never acted on. Encourage your group members to open up and confront those parts of their character that God hasn't been given access to yet. You can't change them, but pushing them to be honest with themselves, with each other, and with God may start the process of repentance and growth.

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AGENDA

1. MONTHLY FOCUS: CHARACTER 10 MINUTES

- Romans 12:2

2. MONTHLY QUESTION 1 HOUR

- In what ways are you trying to be better than you really are?

3. MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS 35 MINUTES

- Character flaw and plan to address it

4. BREAK 10 MINUTES

5. BOOK NET-OUT 50 MINUTES

- *Louder Than Words*

6. DISCUSS NEXT MONTH 10 MINUTES

- Book: *Fields of Gold*
- Assignments:
 1. Assignments and goals regarding time, work, and money.
 2. Prepare personal ministry plans and take a step.
- Monthly focus: Priorities (Matthew 6:33)

PRAY AND DISMISS.