

*Would you like to join a Small Group at Fellowship Bible Church?*

Most existing groups are open to new group members, and new groups begin on a regular basis. If you have friends in a small group, ask about joining their group. If you are new to Fellowship and are looking for a place to connect, please feel free to contact us and we can help you find the right group.

*Leader Tips:*

1. The sermon notes are designed to be used as a guide for discussion. Don't feel like you have to use every question. Some questions will take a while to work through, others will be over in a few seconds!
2. Don't teach the lesson. The sermon was taught on Sunday morning. Just ask questions and let everyone else talk.
3. Let other people ask questions. It's OK to go "off topic" for a while. Sometimes those conversations are more interesting anyway!
4. Have fun. Relationships, not curriculum, are the heartbeat of Small Groups. So have fun with the people in your group.

*Agenda for a Small Group Meeting*

*Gathering Time*

Take 15-20 minutes to welcome everyone, catch up, and share some food!

*Discussion Time*

Here's a suggested format:

1. *Ice Breaker* – Lighthearted ice-breaker question (15-20 min.)
2. *Discussion* - Discussion time, Bible study, application challenge (30-40 min.)
3. *Prayer* – Prayer requests and praying for one another (15-30 min.)
4. *Planning* – Keep the vision before the group, HEALTH planning, etc. (10 minutes)

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Everyone is Spiritual

**Radical Church**

Phillip Wright

April 10, 2011

## Warm up!

Recall a pleasant memory when times seemed to be less complicated.

My lifestyle probably reminds people of:

- Donald Trump—never too much of a good thing
- Mother Teresa—keep it simple; give a lot
- Jack on the *Titanic*- no wood left to float on
- Ward Cleaver – pretty boring and old fashioned
- Ann Landers- always sticking my nose in other's business
- Cindy Crawford- I have it all, now!

## Talk it over!

How Should We Feel About and Act Towards People?

1. Open our eyes to the spiritual hunger in people.

*While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. —Acts 17:16*

Question: What are some signs that some of your friends are showing that they might be spiritually hungry?

2. Passionate yet restrained.

*While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. —Acts 17:16*

3. Go where people are.

*So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there. <sup>18</sup> A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, "What is this babbler trying to say?" Others remarked, "He seems to be advocating foreign gods." They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection. <sup>19</sup> Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? <sup>20</sup> You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we would like to know what they mean." <sup>21</sup> (All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.)*

—Acts 17:17-21

One way I can have a better influence on others:

- Practicing the Golden Rule
- Being a more bold witness for Christ
- Hold the onions
- Smoke, drink, dip, chew and cuss in private
- Tell my story whenever I get a chance
- Share the good news
- Other

#### 4. Find Stuff in Common

*Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious."*  
—Acts 17:22

#### 5. Know and Understand our culture.

*For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.*  
—Acts 17:23

Question: What are some good things in our culture that can be used as a bridge to reach people with the gospel?

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#### 6 Don't witness to Buddhists, Muslims, Hindus, etc, but to people.

My thoughts on modeling Christ for others:

- You're kidding...*right?!*
- That would absolutely have to be a God-thing.
- I'm here because someone modeled Christ for me.
- That's the kind of person I want to be.
- It's more about being real than being perfect.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

How does God feel and act toward people?

#### 1. We don't make Him. He makes us.

*"The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands."*  
—Acts 17:24

#### 2. He cannot be served but He loves to serve.

*And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else.*  
—Acts 17:25

#### 3. He made us all equal.

*From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands.*  
—Acts 17:26

Question: Which of these ways that God acts and feels towards people challenges you? Encourages you?

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#### 4. God is not hiding. He wants to be known.

*God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us.*  
—Acts 17:27

Question: How does God's desire to be known help us tell our friends about Him?

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#### Work It Out!

One thing I'll do differently because of this sermon:

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