

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

The Lost Art (of Disciple Making)

Week of August 24, 2019

Week 4: Obey My Commands (Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

Text: Mark 9:33-37

Jesus was the master of disciple-making. We continue to learn from Him how we too can make disciples. This study revealed the powerful impact of “challenging” our disciples. Jesus challenged His men. They grew because of His strong challenges. We must overcome our people-pleasing tendencies and say the “hard” word.

Kicking it off: Jeff showed off a surgical scalpel that is engraved with “Proverbs 27:6”. That verse reads, “Wounds from a friend can be trusted.” Have you ever had surgery? Willing to tell the group why you were cut?

Discussion:

1. Reread *Mark 9:33-34* They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, Jesus asked them, “What were you arguing about on the road?” But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest.

What keys to confrontation can you see in this verse?

2. Reread *Mark 9:35* Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, “Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.”

Can you think of a time someone confronted your behavior by reminding you of a biblical principle? How did you respond?

3. Why do many people bristle when someone challenges them?

4. Reread *Mark 9:36-37* Jesus placed a child among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me.”

How is this demonstration applicable to their problem of desiring prestige?

5. How did the disciples do at obeying the challenge that Jesus gave? (Hint: Take a peek at these verses from the next chapter - *Mark 10:13-14* *Mark 10:37*.) Why is it important to add forbearance (grace) to our challenges?

6. Can you think of a time that you failed a friend by failing to challenge them?

Wrapping It Up: Pray for courage! Pray for the courage to boldly speak challenging words to those you feel called to disciple.