

February 2020 Champions Discussion Guide

Care

- What stories or testimonies can you share about your *If Only* group?
 - Go to ChurchoftheKing.com/ifonly to share. Feature available in February.
- Have you experienced any challenges?
- What did you learn about yourself as a Small Group Host? Is there anything you would do differently?

Communicate

- **Celebrate** // What are you personally celebrating?
- **Leadership Podcast** // Text PODCAST to 25827 to get it sent to you each Monday morning.
- **CALENDAR DATES**
 - **Night of Prayer and Worship**//Friday, February 7th 7PM // All Campuses.
 - **21 Days of Prayer** // March 2–22 // All Campuses // ChurchoftheKing.com/21days
 - **SERVE DAY** // Saturday, May 2 // All Campuses // Mark your calendar!
 - **Men’s Night with Robert Madu** // Tuesday, March 10 // 5PM Food Truck and 7PM Event // Little Creek Campus
 - **Women’s Night with Lynette Lewis** // Tuesday, March 24 // 5PM Food Truck and 7PM Event // Little Creek Campus (Live) // Baton Rouge, Gulf Coast, and South Shore (Livestreamed)
 - **2020 Spring Semester** // March 14 – May 8 (8 weeks)

Coach

By hosting an IF ONLY small group, you are helping to transform lives of the individuals in your group. You are participating in the vision of our church, *“Reaching People Building Lives”*. More importantly, your leadership is fulfilling Jesus’ great commission. Have you ever stopped and asked yourself why did Jesus place such a priority on reaching and serving people? The answer is contained in the words of Jesus found in this scripture, *Matthew 9:36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.*

Essentially, Jesus is saying people matter to God! Jesus knows that without a relationship with Him, people are lost. In the same way, we should want to have the best group ever not for us but for the people in our group. Therefore, it is so important that we do our best so that God can use us to have the greatest impact in their lives.

So, Today, we will discuss 3 Tips to your best group ever:

1. **PRAY** – Start with God. Prayer is simple, It’s a dialogue. It is you talking to God and God talking to me. One of the goals of our community series small groups is to connect people to Christ and encourage them to grow in a deeper relationship with God and prayer is the pathway that accelerates eternal change. *2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation: old things have passed away: all things have become new.* We also have the potential to encourage people in our small group. *Hebrews 10: 24-25 says, “And let us*

consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” Small groups are designed for eternal impact, which None of us can conjure up on our own. If we want God to use us to make an eternal impact, we must pray!

2. PREPARE – Stick with the plan. Like our IF ONLY daily guide, most of our small group curriculums are designed with eternal life change in mind. However, we need to prepare in order to know what it will take to make a difference *Luke 14:28 says, Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won't you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it?*

Champions are revealed inside of the ring, but they are made outside of the ring by how well they prepare. Preparation prepares you and instills confidence in you as lead others while listening for the Holy Spirit.

3. PROMOTE – Step out and invite others. *He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. Mark 16:15.* One of the best ways to “preach the gospel” is making a simple invite to a place where people will experience God and be open to hearing the good news of Jesus. Regardless of what session you may be in, it is never too late to invite someone to join you small group. Your invitation has the potential to change a life for eternity.

We're invested in helping you fulfill God's purpose for your life and promote your small group.

Discussion Questions:

- We want to see people become new creations in Christ, which can only happen through the power of prayer. Share a story of how you have seen this in your life or from someone at COTK.
- How does your pray life encourage you and others in their relationship with God?
- Give some practical examples of how you prepare for your small group.
- How can we as a Champions team prepare better for next years community series?
- Were the resources provided on the webpage helpful? What are some suggestions to improve the way we can promote our small groups? In our HUBS, community church etc..
- What are some reasons people are hesitant to invite others to their small group?
- Talk about a time you invited someone to your small group and they showed up? How did that make you feel?

Action Steps: Your group can make an eternal impact on people's lives. Consider and PRAY about the next step you should take with your small group.

1. Have you thought about keeping your group going after If Only?
2. Do you have any questions about continuing your group?

For more practical tips of hosing your best small group ever, You can access the Host Training videos at ChurchoftheKing.com/smallgroups.

Prayer

Since prayer is the first step to having your best small group ever, pray that God will fill you first to be the best small group leader you can be! We can do nothing significant unless God's power and presence come upon us.

Acts 1:8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be ^[a]witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Are there any personal needs or concerns that we can pray for as a team? Allow time for prayer requests.