

LEADER PREP

GOAL OF GROUP TONIGHT

This is the fourth week of At the Movies! With tonight's emphasis on inclusion, make sure students feel comfortable with their peers and with you. Be sure to engage with your group before diving in. Our main goal tonight is to focus on building community and advocating for one another with the realization that we are *all* children of God.

CONVERSATION GUIDE

HAVE FUN FIRST: SEE YOUR CIRCLE

Ask the students to stand in a circle with their eyes closed. As you read a prompt that applies to a student, they will take a step forward and open their eyes. You can invite them to see who else shares the same experiences. Once they take a quick look around, ask them to return to the circle and close their eyes again. This is a great exercise to build a sense of community and lay a foundation for vulnerability and trust.

Start with light-hearted prompts such as:

Step forward if...

- You have a dog
- You have ever wet your pants
- You're the oldest sibling
- You play basketball, etc.

Then, move into deeper prompts like:

Step forward if...

- You have ever felt left out
- You have lost someone close to you
- You sometimes feel insecure
- You have felt hidden, etc.

After this activity, thank your group for being vulnerable and remind them that sometimes we are alike in more ways than we realize.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. **Ask for four volunteers to each read one of these verses: James 2:1, Galatians 3:26-28, Acts 10:34-35 and Proverbs 31:8.**
 - How have you spoken up for someone that can't speak for themselves?
 - Have you ever watched someone stand up for someone else? How did they do it?
 - Where in your life do you see an injustice that you can "be the first" to change?
2. **Ask a volunteer to read Ecclesiastes 4:9-10.**
 - Who in your life has helped you succeed when you fall—maybe a parent, teacher, coach, or friend? How did they help?
 - Have you helped someone else by being there for them when they struggled? What was the circumstance?
3. **Aaron said that giving a hand to someone who needs an advantage is a beautiful thing.**
 - Who are the "hidden figures" in your life who you could offer encouragement to?
 - What can you do to make sure that church and your group is a place that feels welcoming and safe for everyone?

WRAP IT UP & PRAY:

Have students break off in groups of 2-3 and pray in one of the three ways Aaron mentioned at the end of his sermon. It's okay if they've never prayed out loud before! Prayer doesn't need to be perfect and this is a great way to practice.

1. If you have been the target of injustice, ask God to help you give grace and pray for those who have hurt you.
2. Pray for forgiveness for the ways we may have hurt others without knowing.

3. Pray that our church and our community would continue to grow and include people of every nation, language and race.

GROUP LEADER TOOLBOX

HOW TO TAKE ATTENDANCE

Login on your phone: my.tpcc.org

- Username: initial of first name, last name (ex: awilson)
- Password: same as it has been for any event with TPCC (if you don't know, let us know!)

Scroll down to Groups:

- Select your student group
- Scroll down to see your roster

To take attendance:

- Click on the attendance tab next to roster
- Scroll over to the right to see the plus sign on the right-hand side
- Click the + sign
- Choose your attendance date
- Select all students present
- Click "save"

To add a new student:

- In the comments, before you click "save," write in the notes his/her first and last name.

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

Brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism.

(James 2:1)

So, in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith... There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

(Galatians 3:26-28)

I now realize that it is true that God treats everyone on the same basis. Whoever fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him, no matter what race he belongs to.
(Acts 10:34-35)

Speak up for those who can't speak for themselves.
(Proverbs 31:8)

Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help.
(Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)

MAIN SERMON POINTS

KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM TODAY'S MESSAGE

God asks us to use our voices to speak on behalf of others who might be experiencing racism, sexism, or injustice. How can you take the courageous step to "be the first" and make a change?

We can all use whatever position and power we have to give opportunities to people who wouldn't otherwise have the chance to offer the world something of great value. Who can you "hand the chalk" to and empower them to grow?

This is never something we will completely arrive at. Pray that we, as individuals and as a church, continue to be sensitive to this topic and extend grace to ourselves and to others as we continue to grow.