



Sleeping On the Pew

Date: 5/29/16

## **Read Together**

Read the Scripture and overview below before your Life Group meets.

Scripture passage: Acts 20:7-12

This week we will discover a man who went to sleep mid message! Although we aren't normally asked to remain "alert," listening to a sermon until midnight as this man was asked, we sometimes become hypnotized by the day-to-day of life and can, if not careful, fall asleep spiritually. Complacency, lack of passion, self-centeredness rather than God-centeredness, busyness, a lack prayer and God's Word—these things and more, penetrate even the warmest God-filled heart, causing it to become lukewarm, cold or out of focus. In the midst of such spiritual sleep, we must wake from our slumber, remember our first love, and ask Him to rekindle the flame that once burned bright in our hearts. Just as Christ was resurrected from the dead, so His power in us can wake us from dullness, blowing a fresh wind of the Spirit into our lives so we can "go there" with the Gospel until our maker returns.

## **Pray Together**

Use the first few minutes of your lesson to lead your group in a focused prayer time.

- Praise: Spend time praising God for who He is.
- Repent: Take a few moments to silently confess any sin that is lingering in your heart.
- Ask: Verbalize your needs and the needs of others to God.
- Yield: Surrender your will to God.

## **Discuss Together**

Use these questions to engage in an informative and impactful discussion.

Describe a time of spiritual complacency in your life. What were the causes of this spiritual slumber?
 How did you wake from your sleep? What can a person do to prevent a loss of passion and zeal for the Lord?

#### Read Acts 20:7-12.

- How important is weekly worship to you? Why?
- Do you make time for worship in your daily life? (Reading your Bible, praising God, praying, sharing the Gospel)
- Is personal and corporate worship a priority in your life or do other things on your calendar crowd it out?
- Discuss the problem of weary worshippers in our world today. We are living in a time when engaging
  others with the Gospel is more critical than ever before, yet many believers are disengaged,





passionless, and tired. What are the causes of our spiritual and physical weariness, and how can we restructure life and regain energy, clarity, and focus? Are we as a church sleeping in the pew?

• The fatal fall of this young man, Eutychus, caused an awakening in this boys life through the resurrection power of Jesus. Have you had a spiritual fall and never recovered? Are you in need of a spiritual awakening in your life as a result of the power of God?

Below are several passages of Scripture. Using the 3-question method Pastor McKinley referenced in his message, choose a few and study these portions of God's Word together with your group.

- 1. What does the passage say? (Allow the Bible to speak clearly and plainly.)
- 2. What does the passage mean? (Look for historical contest, literary style, theological clarity, Biblical unity.)
- 3. What does the passage mean to me personally? (Look for application but note there will not always be a "how-to.")
  - Matthew 26:69-75
  - o Revelation 2:1-7
  - o Revelation 3:14-22
  - o Romans 13:11-14
- Does God need to stir up wonder for Him and His Word in your heart and life? Will you pray to that end? Spend time in your group praying for a passion and fresh encounter with the Living God.

# **Do Life Together**

These questions are meant to encourage you to apply spiritual truth and live on mission for Jesus. It is your Life Group leader's responsibility to challenge you and hold you accountable to taking steps of growth and faith. Take these questions to heart. Allow the Holy Spirit to prompt you to grow in your role as a disciple and ultimately, a disciple-maker.

What will you do this week to combat lethargy, apathy, and monotony in your spiritual life? Who will you share your passion and love for Christ with this week?



