



Preparation

WEEK NINE OBJECTIVE:

Understand the story God is writing and how to communicate the restorative power of Jesus in their stories by sharing the key events and the day-to-day happenings that are shaping who they are in Jesus.



Read

Please Read pages 73-76 and appendix pages 107-109 which you engage with individuals that may not be ready to make a decision for Jesus. Help them realize they still have a story and encourage them to recognize how Rooted/this group has altered the way they may be seeing things now.



Communicate

If you have not communicated about the attendance for Rooted Celebration, please do so this week.

Encourage your group mid-week, have those who haven't shared yet prepare to share their 2-5 minute story, and remind those who signed up for snacks.



Cardboard Testimonies

"Before Rooted" and "After Rooted". Again 108-109 is helpful in framing why the before and after cards. You collect these at the end of the night to use at the Rooted Celebration.



Preparation Continued



Pray

- Pray that everyone will be open-minded to the truth that all we have belongs to God and that He has entrusted it to us.
- Pray that each group member will be honest in their assessment of how they manage their money. Wherever each member is at in their walk and trust in tithing, that they will lean more into God as The Provider.
- Pray that anyone needing help with their finances/budgeting will take the next step to find help to become godly money managers.



Leader Preparation

Come prepared to share how you told your faith story with someone recently to model this to the group or to be honest about why you did not share your story and what kept you from sharing.

Review your notes from the past 8 sessions and see if there are any conversations you need to circle back to in order to complete what you need for the prophetic blessing on week 10.

You will need to manage time to make sure everyone shares their 2-minute story and then everyone shares their Cardboard testimony.

Look ahead to week 10 - Prayer Blessing over each member, Words of Affirmation and Celebration Dinner.



When You Gather

01 Memorize

Review the Memory Verse-Romans 8:1-2, Ephesians 6:17-18, Philippians 4:6-7. Colossians 1:13, Ephesians 2:10, Matthew 25:40, Matthew 6:19-21, 1 Peter 3:15 and Hebrews 10:24-25.

02 Theme

A better understanding of how our story of faith and the restorative power of Jesus can bring healing to our damaged world.

03 Introduction Questions

Where did God meet with you this week?

04 Story

All members share who have not shared their two minute story.



Gathering Continued

05 Discuss

What's the biggest challenge you face in telling your story with someone?

f you are a Christ follower, have you ever shared your faith story with someone else? If you've done so, how did it go? If you haven't, why not?

Who are three people in your life who don't know Jesus?

What do you think of God's story? Are there any parts you disagree with, or are there any parts that confuse you? Explain.

Do you think you could write down from memory the major point of each of the four parts?

If you have heard the story of God before, either as a child or in a different context, how was it explained to you? How does it relate to what you read today?

How do you feel about telling your story to others? How does this affect how you think about evangelism?

Do you have opportunities in your life to meet the needs of others?

Have there been opportunities to tell your story of faith in these situations? If not, how can you challenge yourself in this?

Remember the three people you have been praying for. Share your story of faith with them in a way that is relevant and succinct.

Pray about someone you can invite to the next session of Rooted. How can you tell him/her how Rooted has impacted or changed you?



Gathering Continued

06 Cardboard Testimony

Once they are finished collect these back up at the end. Explain we will use these again.

07 Pray

After the Cardboard Testimonies, take time to pray over the group or pray with partners helping each other define where they are and where they need to go spiritually. Baptism may become part of the discussion this week.

08 Wrap Up

Share with the group about affirming each other next week and ask each person to send a word/characteristic to you about every other person that they have noticed over the past 9 weeks. Give an example.

Remind everyone of the importance of confidentiality.

Share any details necessary for the Rooted Celebration and the upcoming opportunity to be baptized.

