

SMALL GROUP LESSON PLAN



Teaching The Bible Through Practical Biblical Teaching

- **Greeting/Opening Prayer/Food & Friendship**
- **Icebreaker** ~ What's your favorite sport to play or watch? Why?
- **Testimonies/Good news/What are you thankful for?**
- **WOF's Purpose:**
 - 1) We teach and educate - exercising believer's rights through practical application
 - 2) We are a holistic church- development of spirit, soul, and body
 - 3) We are a mission's church - serving both domestic and international
- **Short review of what was preached at service on Sunday**
- **Facilitation of Lesson**

(Facilitator Notes)

LONGSUFFERING

Longsuffering is defined as patiently enduring any lasting offense or hardship. The word longsuffering in the Bible is made up of two Greek words meaning "long" and "temper" or "long-tempered". To be longsuffering, then, is to have self-restraint when one is stirred to anger. Longsuffering is also one of the fruit of God's Spirit received in the new birth. As a Christian, to live victoriously, longsuffering is a characteristic we must develop and allow to grow and thrive in us in order to produce more fruit. It is not always easy to suffer long when it comes to dealing with difficult people and difficult circumstances surrounding people. However, we must choose to walk in longsuffering while allowing God to change our adverse circumstances.

READ: Galatians 5:22-23 KJV, Colossians 3:12-17 NLT - The old nature can be very short fused at times. When offenses come we tend to strike back with unkind words and unforgiveness.

1. Describe how you would "put on" longsuffering to avoid quarrelling with others?
2. What fruit of the Spirit have you called on most to help you with patience when your "fuse was short"?

READ: 2 Peter 1:3-8 NLT -We we're expected to also supplement our faith. The more we grow in developing fruit, the more productive and useful we are to God.

3. What are some of the hindrances to walking in longsuffering?
4. How do you plan to nurture the fruit of longsuffering and patience toward others.

READ: James 1:2-3 AMP, Ephesians 4: 30-32 NLT. Count it all joy when we go through persecutions and afflictions. When our faith is tested, it builds character in us. Be kind and forgiving, just as God in Christ forgave us.

5. How has joy (laughter) helped your ability to be long suffering
6. Share one way we can practice being kind, forgiving and having practice restraint with others.

- **Time of Decision** (Everyone Bow Your Heads)

1) Receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior:*Some may have never received Jesus.*You may be a good person, giveto the poor, and serve in the community. *Has there been a day where you confessed Jesus and Lord?

(Read Romans 10:9) If need to make this decision, raise your hand:

What to do next: Have them repeat after you: "I believe that Jesus is the son of God. I believe he died for me bearing my sins for me. I believe he rose from the dead and is alive right now. Dear Lord Jesus, come into my life now! Come into my heart now! I believe in my heart, and say with my mouth that Jesus Christ is my personal Lord as Savior. And I am, right now, born again."

2) Rededicate your life:*Is your life a mess? *Are you struggling right now? *You know something is just off in life? **{Read 1 John 1:9}** If you want to be restored with God, raise your hand:

What to do next: Lead the person in the following prayer, allowing them to repent before God for the area they have sinned: "Father, I come before you in the Name of Jesus asking for forgiveness ... (allow the person to personally speak to God about the specific thing they are repenting for). After they are finished, close out the prayer with them, thanking God for forgiveness and restoration."

- **Time of Prayer**
- **Your Circle: (Family, Friends and those you have influence with) How's it going?**
- **Announcements-Next WOF service and any additional announcements**
- **Dismissal**

Prayer focus: 1) Your Circle (friends and family) 2) Small Group members 3) Word of Faith Leadership
Have you reached out to your circle today?