

# 4 Ministries: Build

We can help people grow to be true followers of Jesus

## Group Discussion Flow

### connect with needs

- ▶ Find out how they are doing. Ask also how their **action to take** and **person to tell** went last week.
- ▶ Pray for wisdom from God for the session.
- ▶ Start by stating: "People need to grow in their relationship with God."  
Then, surface experiences:  
*"Let me tell you how I have experienced this."*  
*"Tell us how you have experienced this."*
- ▶ Transition to the Bible by saying, "God uses Christians to help other Christians grow in their relationship with God."

### hear what God says

- ▶ Read (or tell) a Bible story/passage related to the topic.  
Choices:  
**1 Thessalonians 2:7-13 (story)**  
**2 Timothy 4:2**  
Commentary:  
**1 Thessalonians 2:7-13** — In this passage, Paul shares about his relationship with the church in Thessalonica. He nurtured and cared for them, as a parent would for a child. He also says that he shared his life with them. Discipleship happens best as people experience life together.  
**2 Timothy 4:2** — We are to be prepared to share the Word of God with others. Whether through encouragement or correction, we are to be ready to help people grow spiritually.

### apply that to life

- ▶ State the main lesson: "We can help people grow to be true followers of Jesus." Have them write the **lesson learned** on their Mini-Journal card.
- ▶ Discuss:  
*What are some things that keep us from growing in our relationship with God?*  
*What is one action you can take this week to help another person grow in his or her relationship with God?*
- ▶ Have them write down their specific **action to take**. Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.

### tell someone they know

- ▶ Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- ▶ Have them write the name after **person to tell**. Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- ▶ Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.

#### notes and preparation checklist

##### pray

- Pray for wisdom.
- Pray for group members.

##### connect

- Think of a good personal example to share.
- Decide when and how to transition from **connect** to **hear**.

#### notes and preparation checklist

##### hear

Alternate questions to ask:

- 1 Thessalonians 2:7-13**
  1. *What are some ways to describe the efforts Paul made to build into the lives of Christians in Thessalonica?* Note: Look for lifestyle as well as content.
  2. *What are some evidences of Paul's commitment and intentionality?*
- 2 Timothy 4:2**

Note: Build on the discussion of the second question above. Say, *Having seen Paul's model of ministry, let's look at his exhortation to minister.*

#### notes and preparation checklist

##### apply

- Decide when and how to transition from **hear** to **apply**.
- Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. Have an example in mind.
- Print [Build Mini Journal](#).

#### notes and preparation checklist

##### tell

- Encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- Look for group members who **tell** easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.