

Growth Group Discussion Guide

Week of April 22

Team of Fools

Our Scripture: Acts 16:16-34

Ice Breaker

Welcome to our Spring Growth Groups! What do you remember about your first day of school? Where was it? What was that like?

Quick review

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

Digging Deeper

1. Greg mentioned that the Apostle Paul had many teammates we should remember.
 - Who was Barnabas? Read Acts 4:32-36 & Acts 13:2-3
 - What does the name "Barnabas" mean?
2. Let's focus on another of Paul's teammates:
 - Who is mentioned in Acts 12:12?
 - What happened next to John Mark (Acts 12:24)?
 - Read Acts 15:36-41. Conflict even arises among Bible teammates! Who did Paul choose as his next teammate?
 - Why is John Mark so significant?

Media Mix - Keep Your Eyes on the Prize

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gM-tfj6lp6w>

What does this video have to do with our story today?

On what grounds were Paul and Silas imprisoned? (Acts 16:20-24)

Why did the civil rights protesters march arm in arm?

Bringing It Home

1. Who is/are your primary teammate(s) in faith? Why? How will you let them know you appreciate them this week?
2. Tell about a time when you felt most like a team in doing something that mattered. What did you do? Tell about a time through Atonement when you were involved in a significant group effort to impact the lives of others or serve them. Why did that matter?
4. Greg said, "Unless groups and teams are doing an 'action' together our growth is limited. Insight must lead to action." Brainstorm some thoughts about your agreement or disagreement with that statement.

Prayer Time

What would you like to pray for in your group as you begin the spring cycle? Make a list on board or easel. Look at the list together once it is complete and say "Amen!"

Housekeeping

1. Welcome everyone to the group with special attention to any newcomers. Ask if anyone knows a friend (whether part of Atonement or not) who could be invited to your group. Just the invitation will tell them you care!
2. Who is bringing treats next week?
3. This is a short 5-week spring series. How will you serve together during this time? Can you identify a "GWOH" opportunity to do together?