

## A-Z of Discipleship Course

### WEEK 6 - WISE DISCIPLESHIP

In this final session of this 6-week course on discipleship, we'll look at the final 4 chapters of *A-Z of Discipleship*, and take stock of what we've been discovering.

#### Preparation

Before you meet, read chapters W, X, Y, and Z of *A-Z of Discipleship*.

#### Begin (10 mins)

Ensure that everyone is welcomed. Ask if anyone has any encouraging stories/testimonies to share about their experience of growing as a follower of Jesus during the course.

After this read James 1:22-25 and pray that we would be doing what God says, in his word. Pray that this session will be helpful, equipping us so we build strong foundations for a life of following Jesus.

#### Discussion (50 mins - ie. about 10 minutes on each)

##### 1. *W is for Worship*

Worship is our heart-response to God. It's giving him our love and devotion - in *acts* of worship, and by living a *life* of worship. Read the story of the wise men in Matthew 2:9-11 and talk about their act of worship: what did they do, and what do we learn? Then read Romans 12:1 (the passage read at the start of last week's session): what does that say about a life of worship?

##### 2. *X is for X-Rated*

While there is great freedom in being a follower of Jesus, there are some things that God says in the Bible we should best avoid or be very careful about. Some of these are mentioned in this chapter, which includes various aspects of sex, violence, exploitation, highs and use of language. There will not be time to explore much of this, so choose one area, and look up the relevant Bible verses. Why is it important to take care here? Take note that there is no place for judgmentalism and that God loves to forgive and bring a new start.

##### 3. *Y is for Yes!*

Read 2 Corinthians 1:20 which speaks of God's promises: what does this say about the nature of God, and his desire to bless us, help us and encourage us? The Bible is full of promises which are for us to receive, believe and live out. Is there a Bible promise anyone would like to share that has been a help to them? Read and learn John 3:16 and take note of the wonderful promise there.

##### 4. *Z is for Zeal*

Some people start off well as followers of Jesus, but over time lose their passion for Christ. We see this in Revelation 3:15-16. The Holy Spirit wants just the opposite! He wants us to grow in love and commitment. How did Jesus describe this in Matthew 22:37? To do this we need to do the basics well. Remind yourselves what these basics are, by looking back at this course and the chapters of the book. Talk especially about the family of the Church; reading the Bible and praying; reaching out in Mission and living a life of Love, with Jesus at the very centre.

#### Pray (10 mins)

Now get into groups of three and tell the others about someone you'd love to see start following Christ in the life of discipleship. Pray for these people, that they'll become thirsty for meaning and hope, and begin calling to God in prayer, that soon they'd encounter Christ and discover the joy of following him and being his disciple.

End by standing together, in one big group. Take a few moments to go round, encouraging everyone to offer a short prayer of thanks for something they've discovered about discipleship and about the person of Jesus, during this course. Finally have an open time of prayer, asking

people to pray that we'd go on and mature as followers of Christ, as the Holy Spirit builds strong foundations for a life of following Jesus.