

Week 1: Passionately Committed to Jesus

Objective: [1 minute]

To discover that pleasing God takes precedence over anything else regardless of the personal cost to us.

Theme Verse: [1 minute] Hebrews 12:1-2 NKJV

"Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Group Time:

Because this will be the first meeting, allow time for all of the members to introduce themselves (especially newly launched groups) or provide brief updates on what has been going on in their lives (for established groups) and share what they hope to gain from being in the group. Leaders should make sure to set the tone, so plan on sharing first. [15 Minutes]

Weekly Video: [5 minutes]

Discussion: [40 minutes]

Action: [5 minutes]

Remember that takeaways are vital; do your best to challenge yourself and the group members to consider an "action item" for this topic.

Prayer: [10 minutes]

As you close the group session, pray together as a group and encourage group members to join you for the next session as well as read the upcoming chapter "Extraordinary Love for People."

Key Discussion Questions (additional questions found at end of chapter):

- 1. Which of the differences between a believer and a disciple stand out to you? Why are these significant? (pgs. 21-23)
- 2. What are some examples of the "one thing" people try to hold back from God? What is that one thing in your life? What will you do about it?