

Strategic Prayer Focus

Each member of a MAD Group is to identify two or three people whom the Lord lays on their heart because they need Jesus. List the names of all those identified in your group on each Strategic Prayer Focus brochure. Keep this brochure in your Bible as a bookmark for your daily reading so that each time you open your Bible you are reminded to pray for these friends that are missing.

Lord I pray for:

- Draw them to yourself (Jn 6:44)
- May they seek to know you (Ac 17:27)
- Help them to accept the Bible as your word (1 Th 2:13)
- Prevent "Satan blinding" (2 Cor 4:4)
- Convict of sin, God's righteousness and the coming judgment (Jn 16:8)
- Send a witness to them (Mt 9:37-38)
- Give me opportunity, courage and words to share the truth with them (Col 4:3-6)
- Turn them from their sin to follow Christ (1 Th 1:9-10)
- Help them trust you totally (Jn 1:12)
- Live a discipler's life, modeling Jesus
- Cling to the truth and produce a huge harvest (Col 2:6-7, Luke 8:15)

MAD GROUPS ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS

THIS WEEK:

1. HAVE YOU ENGAGED IN A SPIRITUAL CONVERSATION THIS PAST WEEK? HAVE YOU BEEN SALT AND LIGHT IN YOUR WORLD?
2. HAVE YOU BEEN EXPOSED TO SEXUALLY ALLURING MATERIAL OR ALLOWED YOUR MIND TO ENTERTAIN INAPPROPRIATE THOUGHTS THIS WEEK?
3. HAVE YOU DAMAGED ANOTHER PERSON WITH YOUR WORDS, MAYBE EVEN BEHIND THEIR BACK?
4. HAVE YOU BEEN KIND, HONORING, UNDERSTANDING, AND GENEROUS IN YOUR IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIPS?
5. HAVE YOU BEEN EAGER TO SERVE OTHERS AND HAVE YOU DONE SO WITH A SPIRIT OF HUMILITY?
6. HAVE YOU FLED EVIL DESIRES AND PURSUED RIGHTEOUSNESS, FAITH, LOVE AND PEACE?
7. HAVE YOU CONTINUED TO REMAIN ANGRY TOWARDS ANOTHER PERSON?
- 8.

(YOUR PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTION)

9. DID YOU FINISH THE READING AND HEAR FROM GOD? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?
10. HAVE YOU BEEN COMPLETELY HONEST WITH ME?

MAD GROUPS

MAD GROUPS WILL MAKE YOU HAPPY!

www.madgroups.com

Adapted from Neil Cole's Life Transformation Groups

MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS (MAD GROUPS)

MAD Groups are a group of 2 or 3 people who meet weekly for accountability and spiritual growth. For real accountability, all MAD Group members should be the same gender. Also, the groups shouldn't have more than four people. Instead, they should multiply into two groups. Here are several biblical reasons why two or three are better than a larger group when it comes to making disciples:

1. Community: Ecc 4:9-12
2. Accountability: James 5:16
3. Confidentiality: Matt 18:15-17
4. Flexibility: Matt 18:20
5. Reproducibility: 2 Tim 2:2

The Three elements in a MAD Group.

1. Sin is confessed in Mutual Accountability and we are spurred on to LOVE and GOOD DEEDS.

You start MAD Groups by asking each other the accountability conversation Questions. MAD Groups start here because it is easy to lose focus and start talking about all sorts of other things.

Beginning with confession of sin usually focuses the rest of the meeting.

The questions are asked straightforward. Each person takes a turn answering the same question before moving on to the next. The confession of sin reminds us of our need for Christ and prepares our hearts for the Word of God that is being read each week.

2. We Soak Ourselves in God's Word.

Jesus said, "People need more than bread for their life; they must feed on every word of God." Matthew 4:4

To expect lives to change and bear fruit without first planting the seed is foolish and will end in disappointment. We must have God's word.

Each MAD Group decides on a passage of Scripture that their group will read that week. Each week you should read about 25 to 30 chapters. For instance if you are reading the book of Philippians you would read it 7 times. (4 Chapters X 7 = 28 Chapters) Or you might want to read through a whole book like Matthew. If anyone in the group fails to read all that the group agreed to read the whole Mad Group reads the same portion of scripture the next week. Reading large sections of the Bible, repetitively, in context and in community, will totally help you grow closer to God.

As you read think about what God might be speaking to you about in your own life and how what you are reading applies to you.

3. The missing are prayed for specifically and regularly.

Jesus taught us to pray "May your will be done on earth, just as it is in heaven" Matthew 6:10

This Mad Groups brochure, which functions as a Bible bookmark, has conversation questions and the Strategic Prayer Focus printed on it. This is to remind each member of the group to pray specifically for every person named on their card as they read their Bibles throughout the week. Disciples need "to think of ways to encourage one another to outbursts of love and good deeds. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage and warn each other, especially now that the day of His coming back again is drawing near" Hebrews 10:23-24

Some things that others have found helpful in the past:

- Read to Hear from God and act on that. Don't just read to read or your time will be dry.
- Record that things that God impresses upon you in a journal
- Set a goal or goals for each week as you strive to become more like Christ.
- Think about who you could invite to join your Mad Group in the future as you make disciples.
- Stick it out for 5 weeks in a row.