

LIVING IN THE YES! LEADER'S GUIDE – CHAPTER 1:

IS GOD INVITING ME INTO MORE?

This is the start of our journey! Many people think of “religion” as our trying hard to be good – but Jesus was different. He had a living, personal relationship with the Father, and he shared that with others. God invites each of us to experience “more, better life” (John 10:10, the Message). That’s where we are headed. Our goal this week is to set expectations and release HOPE.

PLAN to break people up into smaller discussion groups of 3-6 each.

How many PEOPLE? _____

How many GROUPS? _____

PRINT : HANDOUT – 1 set per PERSON (Reprinted from the Encounter Guide)

GET : PENS for everyone

ASK : Ask someone to read “Going Up The Mountain” and “God Is Coming Down.”
You can find it in the YES BOOK, chapter 1 – which is available for free on the website.

LIVING IN THE YES! AGENDA – CHAPTER 1: IS GOD INVITING ME INTO MORE?

Welcome everyone. Offer drinks and snacks. (15 minutes)

Start the general group meeting. (15 minutes)

Play an ICEBREAKER game. (10 minutes)

Have someone read aloud: “Going Up The Mountain ... God Is Coming Down” (5 minutes)

Break into groups of 3-6 for discussion. (30 minutes)

Work through the handout together and talk about the questions.

Tell everyone to hold off on the CONNECT until all the groups are ready.

Connect. (15 minutes)

Put on some quiet instrumental music and ask: *Have you ever experienced a significant moment of joy? What about significant comfort & love, when times were hard?*

Close your eyes. Remember that moment, remember that feeling. Ask God to come again and touch your heart, like that.

Ask if anyone will share their moment. (2 minutes each.)

End by praying for each other.

Gather together for general discussion & recap. (10 minutes)

Return to the larger group and ask people what stood out to them.

This is the start of our journey! Many people think of “religion” as our trying hard to be good – but Jesus was different. He had a living, personal relationship with the Father, and he shared that with others. God invites each of us to experience “more, better life” (John 10:10, the Message). That’s where we are headed. Our goal this week is to set expectations and release HOPE.