

SALVATION 01

INTRO

This is a good place to start, once you've gotten beyond the "history giving" stage of small group. There is no reason to assume that everyone in your group is born-again, or really saved. We have traditionally attracted many non-evangelicals (as well as "churched" evangelicals who have never known God!).

Here are a few very important issues that you will want to make sure they understand -

- Man's Guilt (sin)
- The Cross (as God's Provision and Grace)
- True Repentance
- Faith (as opposed to works to receive the gift of God.)

After this foundation has been laid, the main thing to emphasize is that salvation is really a RELATIONSHIP with God!

I would begin by asking the members to read "Why The Cross" before they come to the small group meeting. This will lay a strong foundation for the first 2 issues – Man's Guilt and The Cross – and hopefully spur much discussion. Then you can spend more time in the meeting itself on the issues of True Repentance and Faith.

Timeline:

- One week before – give them a copy of "Why the Cross" by Jerry Bridges (or better yet – email it to them as an attachment – this way it is harder for them to lose.) Ask them to bring a highlighted copy of it to the meeting next week. This will lay a strong foundation for the first 2 issues – Man's Guilt and The Cross – and hopefully spur much discussion.
- Three days out - read "Why the Cross" by Jerry Bridges
- Two days out - read "How To Become a Child of God" (Pay particular attention to the last section – "Conditions to Real Conversion.")
- One day out - read "These Are The Facts" by Pratney.
- On the day of the meeting - look over the outline of your choice (there are 2 options for this study – one based on "How To Become A Child of God" and another based on "These Are The Facts") and make sure your presentation is ready to go.

Resources:

WEBSITES

- Ministry of Helps <http://www.gospelcom.net/moh/>

BOOKS

- What's So Amazing About Grace by Philip Yancey
- Knowing God by J.I. Packer
- Youth Aflame by Winkie Pratney
- That Incredible Christian by A.W. Tozer
- True Spirituality by Francis Schaeffer
- Basic Christianity by John Stott