

# Life Group Leader Guide

## *Experiencing Christ – Week #6*

(Suggested Format and Discussion Questions)

**Fellowship and Food (15 minutes)** – This is great week to organize extra food for a light dinner by having each family bring a favorite appetizer. This gives some extra incentive to kick-off the homestretch well for the final 4 weeks. Enjoy reuniting!

### Welcome (10 minutes)

- Share about the upcoming Women’s Extravaganza on Saturday, Nov 11<sup>th</sup>. This is a great opportunity for the women to enjoy a great day together. See attachment for more information.
- Cover any group business:

### Bible Study (45 minutes) (Questions #1, #2, #4, and #7 = essential!)

Discussion Question #1

1. **(Kill earthy sins)** Read Col. 3:5-6. National and local media (TV, movies, print, internet) are so highly sexualized that finding suitable entertainment is becoming more difficult all the time. Why is constant exposure to such sexualized material harmful? How would you characterize the battle we face in putting to death sexual immorality, impurity and lust?

LEADER NOTES: This discussion may be hard to limit, because the number of explicit programs and ads has soared to a very high level. The key is to focus on our role as believers in Christ.

#### Discussion Question #2

2. **(Get rid of angry sins)** Read Col. 3:8. The ungodly expression of anger is usually learned very early in life, and is standing in the way of Christian development. Eph. 4:26 (“Be angry and do not sin.”) makes it plain that not all anger is sin, but much of it is. What measures might we take to keep anger within righteous bounds while eliminating “rage, malice, slander and filthy language” (Col. 3:8)? How does eliminating such sins promote unity?

LEADER NOTES: The only appropriate anger for believers is anger for the same reasons God feels anger. Even that can be hard to handle! The key here is a willingness to do what God requires of us.

#### Discussion Question #3

3. **(Put on Christlike clothing - unity)** Read Col. 3:9-11. What these verses make clear is that we are to seek unity in spite of real and continuing differences. The “My Response” Section of the *Experiencing Christ Study Guide*, pages 75-76 says, “Write down steps you can take to stop boasting in distinctives (race, sex, background, education, social status, income) to free yourself up to boast in Christ.” Please share how you responded to that question.

#### Discussion Question #4

4. **(Put on Christlike clothing – love in many forms)** Read Col. 3:12-14. Since “love” is so culturally confusing today, seeing it as a combination of compassion, kindness, and forgiveness makes for a powerful mix! What examples have you seen of these virtues, and how can we encourage greater expression of them in our church, Life Group and families? What are some examples of “bear with each other”?

LEADER NOTES: “Bearing with each other” is both simple and powerful! This is a form of love that can apply in so many ways.

#### Discussion Question #5

5. **(Follow Christ’s pattern - peace)** Read Col. 3:15. In a context speaking of unity, this word “peace” probably refers to the well-being that comes from living in unity with our brothers and sisters in Christ. How can we promote peace in our church, in our families and in our Life Groups?

#### Discussion Question #6

6. **(Follow Christ’s pattern – the Word)** Read Col. 3:16. It is all too easy to leave the Word of Christ at the church door when you leave. What steps have you taken in the last year to make the Word of God a greater part of your life and thinking? What difference has that made in your life? What has resulted from your taking part in the *Experiencing Christ* studies?

#### Discussion Question #7

7. **(Follow Christ’s pattern – the Name)** Read Col. 3:17. This simple test of our words and actions would make an outstanding reminder to hang on the wall at home or to put on one’s desk at work. Discuss how this verse could be used as a test for our actions on all occasions.

LEADER NOTES: Learn to apply this command in your daily walk, and your life will immediately become more spiritually mature!

### Share and Prayer (30 minutes)

- Break up into Men’s and Women’s groups for prayer. This is a great opportunity for the guys to have further dialogue regarding the struggles in putting off sexual immorality. Ask for prayer requests and spend time praying for each other.