

VIRTUE GROUP

for Couples

Leader Guide



Introduction to DISCIPLESHIP AND SMALL GROUPS

Session 1: Virtue overview

Session 2: Charity

Session 3: Faith

Session 4: Hope

Session 5: Fortitude & Prudence

Session 6: Temperance & Justice

SESSION OUTLINE

- Open in prayer
- Short Introduction
- CCC & Bible quotes for discussion
- Take away & practice
- Partner up & check in
- Close with prayer

“GO THEREFORE AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS”

— MATT 28:19

Jesus’ parting words at his Ascension, his marching orders to the apostles then and to us now - go do what I did. Jesus spent three years hanging out with twelve friends, teaching them and loving them. They were the original small group. When he left he instructed them to do the same. And they did. They travelled the world telling people about their experience with the Son of God and the Good News of his Passion, death, and resurrection.

Now it’s your turn, only instead of roaming the globe, you will meet via Zoom.

Discipleship means simply being in a relationship with Jesus that is alive, being excited about it, striving to deepen it, and sharing your experience with other people. You do not need to be a theologian or an expert, just a person who loves and trusts Jesus. Your role is to share the small group experience with your friends. The Holy Spirit will do the heavy lifting because he knows the hearts of those in your group.

Being in a small group gives us the chance to pause, pray, and be with others. We experience freedom to have conversations about God and faith. We feel supported. We learn. We love.

The job of facilitating a small group is easy. Start by asking Jesus who he wants you to invite to your group. He will make it clear. The most important thing you can do for your group members is pray for them by name daily.

When you meet each week, be friendly, loving, and warm. It may take a few weeks for people to trust each other and open up. That’s ok.

Be comfortable with some silence. When you ask a question, let people take a minute to think about their response. The silence is always shorter than it feels. If people ask questions you can’t answer, that’s ok too. You can empower them to research the answer or you can tell them you will look into it for next week. Don’t be afraid to ask a probing question such as “what else do you see” or “tell me more.” For some of the questions, there is guidance for you as the leader on what insight we are looking for.

Recognize that the session may not follow the guidelines exactly. The group may go off on a Holy Spirit led discussion and that may very well be what they need. If they get too far off topic, gently remind them of the discussion.

Above all, entrust the group to Jesus and believe that it will be what he desires it to be. If you have any questions, email fredianim@archmil.org.

