



LEADER GUIDE

WEEK FIVE

OWN YOUR RIPPLE EFFECT THE POWER OF A PERSONAL CALLING



Opening Prayer

God, thanks for leading us through this Ripple Effect series. We pray that we would continually be attuned to your call to surrender to your work in us and around us. Thank you for inviting us to participate in your work. Amen.

Icebreaker

Q1: When you were a kid, what did you want to “be” or do for work when you grew up? If you’re not doing that thing now, when did you bail on that idea and choose a different career?

Q2: We’ll hear Paul address some common relationships in a 1st century household. Describe your home growing up. What were the common or core relationships for you?

We’re going to be talking about our relationships and our personal calling.

Q3: Share a relationship that you currently have that is of primary importance to you? How has this relationship impacted your life/faith?

Q4: How would you define or expand on the phrase, “own your calling?”

PLAY WEEK 5 VIDEO

Talk it Over

Read Colossians 3:23-24 NLT

Leader Instructions: Invite others in the group to read the Bible verses during your weekly study using their participant’s guide or Bible.

This reading reminds us that as Christ-followers, our primary calling is to Jesus first. We “work” to honor God before anyone else. Some have said it this way, “live for an audience of One.”

Q5: Share a brief example from your own life when you were challenged to stop living for the approval of someone else and begin living for God instead.

Q6: This passage calls us to “work willingly.” How does who you’re living for affect the level of joy and energy that you bring to the work you do?

Read Colossians 4:2-6 NLT

Leader Instructions: Invite others in the group to read the Bible verses during your weekly study using their participant’s guide or Bible.

Q7: Of the list of things Paul calls them to do in this text, which one resonates with you, or perhaps is a challenge for you to do?

(continued on next page)



LEADER GUIDE

WEEK FIVE

OWN YOUR RIPPLE EFFECT THE POWER OF A PERSONAL CALLING



Q8: Paul wrote this letter to the people of Colossae from a prison-cell. As you read verses 5 and 6, does this feel like the normal way you interact with others as a Christ-follower? If yes, how so? If not, what needs to change?

Invite your group to read Colossians 4:17, but by removing the name “Archippus” and inserting their own name.

Q9: Imagining that Paul was referring to you in this passage, and not Archippus, what ministry do you feel called to carry out as your own personal calling from God (in your family, present career or in church ministry)?

Have someone who has our theme verse memorized share it: Colossians 1:6 NLT

Q11: How would you say your life has changed and is creating ripples for God over the last 5 weeks of this study?

Q12: What are the primary relationships in your life that you feel called to invest in? What specific ways will you go about nurturing these relationships?

Closing Prayer

Leader Instructions: Feel free to lead this week’s closing prayer using the prompt below or praying your own prayer for the group. You can also ask your group if someone would like to share a quick, simple closing prayer.

Jesus, as we finish up the Ripple Effect groups’ experience, we want to thank you for the friendships we’ve made and for the growth that we have experienced throughout the past few weeks. Thank you for inviting us to greater surrender in every area of our lives. Help us to always be Kingdom minded. Let our hearts be always open to participating in the work you are already doing all around us. Amen.

Closing encouragement for our group

- » How will we celebrate our group? What sort of fun thing can we plan to enjoy together?
- » Let’s each consider continuing to meet as a group.
- » Let’s each commit to deepening our relationship with Jesus, and pursuing our personal calling for the sake of his Kingdom.



PARTICIPANT GUIDE

WEEK FIVE

OWN YOUR RIPPLE EFFECT THE POWER OF A PERSONAL CALLING



Colossians 3:23-24 NLT

Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Master you are serving is Christ.

The audience I find most tempting to serve instead of Jesus is...

When I serve Jesus first, I find that...

Colossians 4:2-6 NLT

Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart. Pray for us, too, that God will give us many opportunities to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ. That is why I am here in chains. Pray that I will proclaim this message as clearly as I should. Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.

Which statement can I memorize and try living out?

Colossians 4:17 NLT

And say to Archippus, "Be sure to carry out the ministry the Lord gave you."

The ministry I feel like the Lord gave me is to:

One way I can intentionally invest in the relationships I feel called by God to pour into this week is:

Colossians 1:6 NLT

This same Good News that came to you is going out all over the world. It is bearing fruit everywhere by changing lives, just as it changed your lives from the day you first heard and understood the truth about God's wonderful grace.

The change I see God doing in me over these last 5 weeks is...
