

Starting Point:

Test Drive a Small Group and Find Your "Right Fit"

Mariann Eitzman

Mirror Image

The Generous Landowner

Matthew 20:1-16

"What brought you here to Bayside and what keeps you here?"

Introduction:

- A. Digging Deeper Into the Word of God:
Lean In, Look Down, Look Out, Look In
- B. Building a Community
- C. Sharpening Your Focus on God's Purpose

Small Group Tips:

- Clear Purpose
- Group Attendance
- Safe Environment
- Be Confidential
- Building Relationships
- Spiritual Health
- Welcome Newcomers

I. Lean In:

“Describe a time when you got more than you felt you deserved, or you didn’t get what you thought you deserved?”

*****Video Segment 1*****

II. Look Down:

Read in your Bible from the book of Matthew 20:1-16

“What do you learn about the landowner and the two types of people?”

III. Look Out:

“Where do you see examples of people who believe God has short-changed them?”

“Where do you see examples of people who believe God is more than generous with them?”

IV. Look In:

“Where in your life do you need to recognize and embrace God’s generosity?”

“Where do you need to let go of the belief that life should be fair?”

THRIVE

CONFERENCE 2010

APRIL 29-MAY 1 | BAYSIDE CHURCH | GRANITE BAY, CA

V.Look Up:

Here is good opportunity to thank God for his generosity. If the group feels comfortable doing so, pray asking God for forgiveness. Tell God that you are grateful that you haven't "gotten what you deserved," but because of His grace and generosity you've gotten more than you deserved. Take turns offering thanks to God for one thing you see in your life that's an expression of God's generosity.

Curriculum Source

Jeff Pries, Mariners Church, *Liquid – Mirror Image*, Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc. 2007, 111