



Wiii Outreach

Wiiik Four

Small Group Lesson

West Side Christian Church





This may be the most stretching lesson of this series for your group. The lesson for this week is pretty easy in thought, but a little tougher in practice: reach out to people. Instead of huddling up as a group and discussing the topic, and rather than search through the Scriptures to study more on the topic, follow the teaching found in James 2:22: **“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”** (emphasis added)

Study isn't enough?

Good Bible study and in-depth discussion are crucial elements for spiritual growth. But it takes more than just studying and listening. We don't want to be people who hear a lot of good sermons and participate in a lot of good discussions, but who remain unchanged and inactive. We want West Side to be a community of people who actively listen to the Word of God, and then who go out and act on what they have heard and learned. Faithful obedience to Christ is not simply the gathering of Christian information (though that's part of it), it's also active participation - doing what God has called us to do. We want to “know” and “do”.

The Lesson:

So, this wiiik's lesson is simple. Find a way to reach out to some un-churched or newly churched people. We recommend that you take your normal group time for this, thus eliminating some of the headache and challenge with trying to coordinate schedules of group members. We're providing you with a list of ways to reach out to people. Obviously this is not an exhaustive list. These are just some ideas to get you thinking of ways you can reach out to others, whether people you know or complete strangers, to impact and influence them for God.

The Event:

We're also providing you with a non-threatening event to invite people to here at the church: the Wiiinie Roast and Fall Fest. You can use this event in two ways.

1. Come celebrate the end of the series with your small group and other friends.
2. Use this event as a non-churchy, casual, and fun way to introduce your non-churched or newly churched friends to West Side. And, if your small group attends, you'll have a natural network of people to connect your friends with for interaction throughout the night.

Suggestions for Reaching Out:

- Rake someone's leaves or do some other sort of yard work for them
- Host a cook-out, dinner party, or dessert social and invite neighbors or friends to interact with your small group
- Attend the Wiiinie Roast and Fall Fest and invite people to join you and small group there
- Help out at a nursing home
- Cook S'mores in a backyard fire pit and invite the neighbors for some cookout fun
- Pass out mints outside a popular restaurant (talk to management first)
- Offer to pray for firemen or police officers on duty at the station
- Take dessert to police officers or firemen on duty
- Write cards to send to military troops at home and abroad, letting them know you're grateful for their service and that you'll be praying for them (and then honor your commitment to pray for them)
- Take dinner to someone in need
- Buy groceries for a needy family



Suggestions for Places to Serve:

- **St. John's Breadline**
430 N 5th St
Springfield, IL 62702-5202
Call (217) 528-6098 to set up a date to help serve a meal
- **Ronald McDonald House**
610 N 7th St
Springfield, IL 62702-5329
(217) 528-3314
- **Inner City Mission**
714 N 7th St
Springfield, IL 62702-6320
(217) 525-3940
<http://www.innercitymission.net>
- **Contact Ministries**
1100 E Adams St
Springfield, IL 62703-1030
(217) 753-3939
<http://www.contactministries.net/help.php>
- **Sojourn House**
1800 Westchester Blvd
Springfield, IL 62704-5600
(217) 726-5100
<http://www.sojournshelter.org/vol.htm>
- **Lewis Memorial Christian Village**
3400 W. Washington St.
Springfield, IL 62711
(217) 787-9600
- **Harvard Park School**
Attn: Tracy Deal
2501 South 11th Street
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 525-3214
<http://www.springfield.k12.il.us/schools/harvardpark/>