

Red Cup NSO Small Group Series

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3 WEEKS

WEEK 1: Thirst

John 2:1-11

PRE-PARTY

Emptiness is the opportunity to see Jesus' power. Empty jars create the context for a miracle. Your honesty opens the door to real interaction with God and those you are in community with.

In this passage, we see that Jesus saves the best for last. Jesus is lavish and overabundant.

What is hard about admitting our emptiness? When was the last time you were completely honest about your emptiness with someone else? How will this passage shape the kind of small group you want to have?

ANOTHER ROUND

- What areas of your life have you "run out of wine?" Where do you feel empty? Pass out cups or jars along with sharpies. Write down your response on the cup. Share them with the person next to you.
- What would it look like for Jesus to work powerfully in these areas of your life? Share your response. Then pray in pairs for Jesus to work in power in this coming week.
- Place the cup somewhere where you will see it this week. In the same way that servants took a risk in trusting Jesus, take a risk of asking Jesus regularly to work in power in these areas.

WEEK 2: Purpose

Matthew 9:9-13

PRE-PARTY

Describe the community gathering that Jesus has created in this passage. What is attractive about it? What do you find offensive or confusing?

How does Jesus define his agenda and purpose? How does this compare to your small group's sense of purpose? What is your small group's vision statement? With your small group, discuss why your small group exists. List practical steps your group can take to resemble the community

Jesus talks about. (Note: If your small group is larger, divide the group into two smaller groups and appoint a leader for each one.)

ANOTHER ROUND

- In this passage, who do you see yourself most closely resembling—Levi or Jesus? Why?
- If you feel like Levi, surrounded by people like just like you, ask God to help you overcome fear in interacting with people different than you. Ask God to protect your heart from judging people before getting to know them.
- If you resonate with Jesus' actions, challenge yourself to invite someone you know to come to small group next week. Remember this is not just an invitation to a meeting, it's an opportunity to talk about spirituality and learn more about your friend's beliefs and background.

WEEK 3: Love

Luke 15: 11-32

PRE-PARTY

In this passage, there are two types of sons. Both are lost. One knows he is far from the father and returns home. The other is near the father and doesn't realize the warped picture he has of his father.

ANOTHER ROUND

- Are you more like the first son or the second son? What is your story?
- Both sons need a transformation in their view of the father and their proximity to him. What does satisfaction look like in these two stories? What do you need?