Living Series – Relationships – Be a Listener  
July 26, 2013

I. WELCOME, 15 mins.
Prepare a couple simple, fun and delightful icebreakers to help your group warm up. Help your cell group members to put aside their busy and tiresome life to prepare their hearts to come before God.

II. WORSHIP, 20 mins.
Prayerfully choose a few songs to lead the cell group members to worship God. The worship leader would encourage members to come before the throne of God to seek God’s face, and lead them into God’s presence. During this time, the cell group leader will also lead the group to pray aloud for the following prayer items:

A. MISSION ORGANIZATION:________________________, and their needs are:______________________
   (Please contact the church if you don’t know the needs of the mission organization.)

B. CHURCH MINISTRY:
   • Intercessory Training: 7/28 @ 1:45-3:45pm, in Fellowship Hall, please sign up on Sunday
   • Glocal Impact Conference: 8/1-3 @ ROLCC, 8/4 @ Santa Clara Convention Center, please register online (www.rolcc.net/engministry)
   • New service time: 9:45am starting on August 11.
   • Intern Cell Leader Training: 8/24, Please sign up with Cell Leader

C. New comer: __________________ Confirm new comers’ name before the meeting.
   For sick members, friends or relatives: ____________________Please discuss how you may show your care to them.

III. WORD, 45 mins. By sharing God’s word, the group may discuss how to apply it to their daily life.

A. Sharing message from last Sunday’s sermon: (It would be helpful if you could listen on-line once again)

1. What is the key message from last Sunday sermon? How did God speak to you through the message?

2. How would you respond to the message? What action will you take after listening to the message?

B. Discussion Topic: Be a Listener

Memorizing Verses: My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry (James 1:19)

Foreword:
James 1:19 teaches us to quick to listen, slow to speak and become angry, so we can pay attention to others’ words and understand their points in order to conduct benign communication and harmonious relationships.

1. The Moment One Cannot Listen
   Nancy was seriously injured by a meowing machine 15 minutes ago. I (Peter) quickly sent her to the hospital emergency room. I was waiting anxiously in the hall for the doctor’s diagnosis to see if she could keep the toe. A friend heard the news and came to visit, I cannot wait to tell the entire story of the accident, but someone abruptly joined the conversation by telling us two similar unfortunate incidents. My ears turned deaf at that time and couldn’t hear what other’s was saying.
   Discussion: Why Peter turned his ears deaf in this case?

2. The Principle of Listening
   When listening to others, we need to abide by some principles to understand the meaning comprehensively.
   a. Pay attention: pay attention to their words, scenarios, wording, intonation and their feelings.
   b. Quick to listen: listening with patience to let others express their thoughts or feeling completely. Don’t hurry them or complete their sentences.
c. Slow to speak: truly understand other people’s viewpoints. Pause and not to express your viewpoint or disagreement.

d. Be compassionate: enter into the other person’s world; respect the person and perceive his/her words the way he/she recognizes.

Discussion:
1) Which one of the above you did well? Which one you need to work on?
2) In addition to the four points mentioned above, is there anything you think could be helpful when listening?

3. Sharing your feeling (please choose from the following). Kind reminder: please be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to anger during sharing. Do not criticize.

Sharing:
1) When you speak, the listener hears your words but cannot understand what you mean.
2) When you speak, the listener is absent minded.
3) When you speak, the listener chooses what he/she wants to hear.
4) The listener already makes conclusion before you complete the sentence.
5) The listener corrects you before you complete the sentence.
6) The listener is emotional or rebuke angrily when you speak.
7) The listener is making phone calls, texting or working on other things while you talk.

Prayer:
Dear Jesus, we thank you for your complete love so we can come to your throne without fear and to get close to you. Please help us to be good listeners, not only to focus on your words and guidance to us, and likewise, we can be a good listener in our daily life so that we are able to communicate with love and to listen and respond with humility. We can bring positive results in every conversation to make the relationships with family, coworkers and relatives even more harmonious. Thank you Jesus, we pray in Jesus’ precious name. Amen!

IV. WORK (Pray for each other), 10 mins.

Please break into group of 2 or 3 to pray for each other’s needs.
Next week: Mark 11:1-11 and 11:15-19