EAT.PRAY.LOVE ('EPL') Hard questions materials leader's guide

"THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS ON ME, BECAUSE HE HAS ANOINTED ME TO PROCLAIM GOOD NEWS TO THE POOR, HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM FREEDOM FOR THE PRISONERS AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT FOR THE BLIND, HE HAS SET THE OPPRESSED FREE, TO PROCLAIM THE YEAR OF THE LORD'S FAVOUR." LUKE 4:18-19

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DATE	WHAT TO DO?	WHAT TO UPDATE?
16 MAR - 23 MAR	 WORSHIP FILM A 'EPL' PUBLICITY VIDEO PRAY FOR 3 X 3 FRIENDS AT SYNCHRONISED TIMING DAILY. 	- SEND IN YOUR PUBLICITY VIDEO
24 MAR - 31 MAR	 FREE & EASY CELL OUTING PRAY FOR 3 X 3 FRIENDS AT SYNCHRONISED TIMING DAILY. 	- CONFIRM THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT ARE COMING FOR EPL 2 DAYS BEFORE THE SESSION
1 APR - 6 APR	 PRAYER WALK IBLESS PRAY FOR 3 X 3 FRIENDS AT SYNCHRONISED TIMING DAILY. 	 UPDATE ATTENDANCE WEEKLY CONFIRM THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT ARE COMING FOR EPL, 2 DAYS BEFORE THE SESSION
7 APR - 13 APR	 EPL SESSION 1 YOUTHS CO-LEAD WITH LEADER. YOUTHS TO SHARE TESTIMONY LEADERS DO ALTAR CALL PRAY FOR 3 X 3 FRIENDS AT SYNCHRONISED TIMING DAILY. 	 UPDATE ATTENDANCE WEEKLY CONFIRM THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT ARE COMING FOR EPL, 2 DAYS BEFORE THE SESSION

DATE	WHAT TO DO?	WHAT TO UPDATE?
14 APR - 20 APR	 FREE & EASY CELL OUTING INVITE FRIENDS FOR EASTER WEEKEND PRAY FOR 3 X 3 FRIENDS AT SYNCHRONISED TIMING DAILY. 	 UPDATE ATTENDANCE WEEKLY CONFIRM THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT ARE COMING FOR EPL,

	 SCHOOL-BASED TGIF PARTIES WILL RUN, VIA PRAYERPOINTS. (COORDINATED BY JASPER) 	2 DAYS BEFORE THE SESSION
21 APR - 27 APR	 EPL SESSION 2 PRAY FOR 3 X 3 FRIENDS AT SYNCHRONISED TIMING DAILY. 	 UPDATE ATTENDANCE WEEKLY CONFIRM THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT ARE COMING FOR EPL, 2 DAYS BEFORE THE SESSION
28 APR - 4 MAY	 EPL SESSION 3 CONFIRM GUEST LIST 2 DAYS BEFORE PRAY FOR 3 X 3 FRIENDS AT SYNCHRONISED TIMING DAILY. 	 UPDATE ATTENDANCE WEEKLY CONFIRM THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT ARE COMING FOR EPL, 2 DAYS BEFORE THE SESSION
5 MAY - 11 MAY	 EPL SESSION 4 PRAY FOR 3 X 3 FRIENDS AT SYNCHRONISED TIMING DAILY. 	 UPDATE ATTENDANCE WEEKLY CONFIRM THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT ARE COMING FOR EPL, 2 DAYS BEFORE THE SESSION
12 MAY - 18 MAY	 FREE & EASY CELL OUTING PRAY FOR 3 X 3 FRIENDS AT SYNCHRONISED TIMING DAILY. 	 - UPDATE ATTENDANCE WEEKLY - CONFIRM THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT ARE COMING FOR EPL, 2 DAYS BEFORE THE SESSION

19 MAY	 CELEBRATION OF HOPE PRAY FOR 3 X 3 FRIENDS AT SYNCHRONISED TIMING DAILY. 	 UPDATE ATTENDANCE WEEKLY CONFIRM THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT ARE COMING FOR EPL, 2 DAYS BEFORE THE SESSION
18 MAY - 25 MAY	 PRAY FOR 3 X 3 FRIENDS AT SYNCHRONISED TIMING DAILY. 	- UPDATE ATTENDANCE WEEKLY -
26 MAY - 1 JUNE	- PRAY FOR 3 X 3 FRIENDS AT SYNCHRONISED TIMING DAILY	- UPDATE ATTENDANCE WEEKLY

1. MEETING PLAN



1. ICE BREAKER (5MIN)

- READ AND REHEARSE ON HOW TO PLAY THE GAME
- PREPARE ALL THE LOGISTICS NEEDED
- DURING THE ICE BREAKER, BE EXCITED TO PLAY, GIVE CLEAR INSTRUCTIONS AND BE SUPPORTIVE CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS IF THERE ARE ANY

2.

2. INSPIRED (10MIN)

- ONE VIDEO PER WEEK
- LOOK THROUGH THE VIDEO BEFORE PLAYING. PICK UP USEFUL AND STRIKING LINES FROM THE VIDEO TO HELP YOU IN YOUR SHARING LATER.
 DURING THE VIDEO, PRAY THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL SPEAK TO THEIR HEARTS AND CAUSE THEM TO IDENTIFY WITH THE MESSAGE



3. INVOLVED (15MIN)

- FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN IN THE BOOKLET
- SET THE TONE FOR SHARING
- ALLOW YOUR FRIENDS TO SHARE WHAT WAS A FACILITATION QUESTIONS AS WELL
- END OFF WITH SHARING A TESTIMONY/VIDEO TESTIMONY
- DO ALTAR CALL, JOHN 3:16, SHARING OF PERSONAL TESTIMONY, FAVOUR APP/IBLESS, FILL UP THE RESPONSE CARD AND FOLLOW UP WITH THOSE WHO RESPONDED TO ALTAR CALL
- ONCE DONE, ASK THEM IF THEY FOUND THE SESSION USEFUL AND INVITE THEM FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEK SESSION AND SERVICE!

4. INFORM

- UPDATE HOW THE SESSION HAS BEEN AND THE ATTENDANCE

2. CHECKLISTS: ARE YOU READY?

'YO	U CAN' WEEKLY CHECKLIST	1	2	3	4
1	PRAYED				
2.	COMPILED AND UPDATED CONFIRMED GUEST LIST 2 DAYS BEFORE SESSION				
3.	INFORMED & REMINDED FRIENDS				
4.	CONFIRMED VENUE				
5.	WATCHED VIDEO & MEETING PREPARATION COMPLETED				
6.	PACKED LOGISTICS				
7.	TESTED WEEK'S DVD OR VIDEO IN LAPTOP/PHONES				
8.	UPDATED ATTENDANCE SHEET AFTER YOU CAN GROUP MTG				

3. IBLESS

WEEK	NAME OF FRIEND(S)	PRAYER REQUEST	UPDATE / ANSWERED PRAYER
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6.			

SESSION 1: WHAT ON EARTH AM I HERE FOR?

A. LOGISTICS & PREPARATION

Ice-breakers: Nil

Inspire: Use TV or Laptop the video. Go to this link <u>http://bit.ly/EPLCAMPAIGN2019</u> for the video.

Involve: Prepare Ephesians 2:10 and John 3:16 verse sheet. Ensure every member has the verses. Look at the appendix 1.

Session Length: About 50 mins

B. ICE-BREAKERS – 15 MINUTES

1. (5 min) Getting to know You!

As this is your first EPL group, it will be good to do some introduction.

Ask everyone to share their name and their childhood dream

2. (10 min) A What?

- We will be playing this game using 2 objects.
- The leader of the game starts by passing the first object to the person on his right (person A) and saying, "This is a whit".
- Person A receiving the object replies, "a what?" and the leader would then clarify by saying, "A whit".
- Person A then turns to the person on his right (Person B) and says, "This is a whit."
- Person B, "A what?"
- Person A, turns to the leader and asks,"A what?"
- Leader to Person A, "A whit!" and Person A to Person B, "A whit!"
- Person B then turns to Person C, and the game continues...
- Note that the question "a what?" has to be passed all the way back to the leader who will reply by saying "a whit" and this reply is passed from the leader to the person holding on to the object.
- This game can get more confusing when we add a second object called 'a whet' and pass it in the opposite direction.
- You can end the game when there is a person who gives the wrong response or is stuck 3 times.

3. (2min) Download a Bible App

Encourage our friends to download a Bible App in their phone.

C. INSPIRE -5 MIN

Transit by saying: Just like the game we played just now, many of us often feel clueless and confused about life. We do not know what the purpose of our life here is on earth. If you type 'why I am here' in google, you will get about 1,180,000,000 results. There are talk shows and self-help books that teach us to look within ourselves to find our true purpose in life, but often it doesn't work. There are also many self-help books that teach us how to live our life to the fullest and often times, they always say the same thing – discover your dream, follow your dream, aim high and never give up. All these may or may not make us successful, but they do not tell us why are we here on earth. Today, we are going to discuss the topic - "What On Earth Am I Here For"? We will start by watching a short video that will explain further on this topic.

EPL Session 1 Teaching VIDEO (1.33min)

(Pray for your friends while the video is playing)

D. INVOLVE - 30 MIN

1. Transit from video by asking "If you have only one more day to live, what will you do with it?" Get members and friends to pair up and share their answers to this question. Say, "You know what, our answers to this question reveals what is important to us. Many of us live our lives chasing after success or things that do not last. But in order for us to live each day of our lives meaningfully, we need to first answer this question, what is my purpose here on earth?"

2. God has created us with a specific purpose in mind. Let's read Ephesians 2:10 (NLT) together - "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." God's mission for us here on earth is to make our life count by fulfilling the very assignments and purposes He has already planned for us. For example, God's plan can be for one of us to be a teacher, and another person to be a musician, etc.

To help you know what your specific purpose is or in other words, your life purpose here on earth, you need to ask yourself two questions.

- a) Where can I find my life purpose?
 - You won't discover your life's purpose by looking within yourself and you have probably tried that already and know that it doesn't work.
 - You didn't create yourself, so there is no way you can tell yourself what you were created for! If I handed you an invention you had never seen before, you wouldn't know its purpose, and the invention itself wouldn't be able to tell you either.
 - Only the creator or the owner's manual could reveal its purpose. You must begin with God, your Creator.

- We are God's special creation and He has a special plan and purpose for our lives.
- **b)** How can I find my life purpose?
 - If we want to find our purpose in life, we need to know God who is our creator and have a relationship with Him.
 - However, sin separates us from God. Some of you may be asking what is sin? Sin is living our lives apart from God and we do not acknowledge God to be the One who has created us.
 - God loves us so much that He sent His one and only Son Jesus Christ to die for our sins. Let's read John 3:16 (NIV) "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."
 - If you choose to believe in Jesus and accept Him as your Lord and Saviour, you can have a relationship with God our Creator and become a child of God.
 - Now I am going to share with you a testimony of how someone found their purpose in life through God.

3. (3mins) Testimony / (5.53min) Show EPL SESSION 1 Baptism Video

Have one prayer point member share a short 3 min testimony on how God gave him/her a purpose in life or show the baptism video if there is no suitable testimony.

4. Altar Call

As we go through today's session, we learn that God is the One who has created us and He has a special purpose for our lives. God wants you to know that you are His special creation and His masterpiece. God loves you so much and He wants to have a relationship with you and help you to fulfil your purpose here on earth. Today, if you would like to believe in Jesus and become a child of God, will you open up your palms and follow after me in this prayer? Christians, will you join in too?

Say after me, "Dear God, I know that I have made mistakes in my life and sinned against You. Today I want to acknowledge that You are the God who has created me. I believe You love me and You sent Your Son Jesus Christ to die on the Cross for all my sins. Please forgive me of all my sins. I invite Jesus to come into my life today to be my Lord and Saviour. Make me a child of God and help me to fulfil your purpose for my life. In Jesus' Name I pray, Amen."

With your eyes closed and heads still bowed, I want to encourage those who have said the prayer earlier to quickly open up your palms so that I can pray a blessing for you. As you open up your palms, it is an indication to God of

this decision you have made to be a child of God. So at the count of three, I want to encourage you to open up your palms....1...2...3...

Thank You Lord Jesus for those who have made the decision to receive You as their personal Lord and Saviour. May you continue to reveal Yourself to them. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

5. Closing with Group Time - John 3:16, Personal Testimony and Ibless:

Ask, "How did you find the time today? We want to now split you all up into **smaller groups** with the friend who invited you, so they can hear more from you through a short group discussion.

- John 3:16 and Personal Testimony

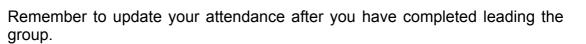
- Share John 3:16 to all the visitors in your group.
- Choose one in the group to share his/her personal testimony of how he/she came to know Jesus and the change he/she experienced since then.
- Give out the response card to your friends
- Do follow up with those who have given their life to Jesus either at the altar call earlier or through the John 3:16 presentation.
- 0

- IBLESS

As all of you are important to us, we would like pray a blessing for you. (Refer to the I-bless) Feel free to choose any blessing that you want and we will definitely keep you in prayer. If you enjoy the EPL Group meeting, continue to join us and you can invite more friends to join us too, but let me know so that I know how many to expect."

Thank your friends for coming. Invite them for weekend services.

E. UPDATE ATTENDANCE AFTER MEETING



SESSION 2: IF GOD IS GOOD, WHY IS THERE SUFFERING?

A. LOGISTICS & PREPARATION

Ice-breakers:

1. Masking tape

Inspire: Use TV or Laptop the video. Go to this link <u>http://bit.ly/EPLCAMPAIGN2019</u> for the video.

Involve: Prepare Romans 3:3-4 and John 16:33 verse sheet. Ensure every member has the verses. Look at the appendix 2.

Session length: About 50 min

B. ICE-BREAKERS – 15 MINUTES

1. (5 min) Getting to Know You! Welcome any new comers. Introduce name & your favourite movie.

2. (10 min) Would You Rather?

Place a tape across the floor, or use objects to create a line. Name the left side Point A and the right, Point B. Tell your friends that you will be shouting out 5 questions with 2 different scenarios at any one time. They would then have to choose which scenario they would rather be in. If they would rather be in the first scenario, they would have to run to Point A. However, if they would rather be in the second scenario, they should run to Point B. They only have up to 5 seconds to respond and move to the respective points. After each question, you may choose to pick some friends and ask them what made them make those choices.

Would you rather...

- i) Be hairy all over or completely bald?
- ii) Marry a good looking spouse with smelly feet, or an average looking spouse without smelly feet?
- iii) Not hear or not see?
- iv) Be the most popular or smartest person you know?
- vi) Be stranded on a deserted island alone or with someone you don't like?
- vii) Lose your handphone or your wallet?
- viii) Spend your weekend relaxing or doing good deeds?

C. INSPIRE - 5 MINUTES

Transit by saying: All of us make many choices daily in our lives, whether smaller choices like what to eat and wear, or bigger choices like which school to go to, which life partner to choose, etc.

Today, we are going to discuss the topic of "If God is good, why is there suffering?"

We will start by watching a 2 min video that will explain further on this topic. In sum, the video will explain to us that God did not create suffering, but in giving man free CHOICE, man CHOSE evil, which might lead to suffering.

EPL Session 2 Teaching VIDEO (1.48min)

(Pray for your friends while the video is playing)

D. INVOLVE - 30 MINUTES

1. Transit from video by asking how many of us have pondered about this question, "If God is good, why is there suffering?" before? If so, I hope the video has given you some answers.

2. In summary, these are the 4 points to "If God is good, why is there suffering?"

a) Sin and Choices

-He gave man free will / free choice but we abused it

- God is like a loving parent, who does not want to lock His children up in a cage or tie us to a chain just so we would 'be good' and not disobey Him. On the contrary, He wants His children to be free. However, this runs the risk of us choosing to disobey and hurt ourselves despite His warnings.

For example, a parent may warn a child time and again not to touch the fire on the stove. However, out of curiosity and rebellion, the child may still choose to touch the naked flame, resulting in pain and suffering caused by his/her own choice.

- Romans 6:23a tells us that "For the wages of <u>sin</u> is <u>death</u>". Sin does not just refer to murder or adultery, but even lying, jealousy or hatred. In sum, sin is simply choosing to disobey God. We need to know that there are consequences for the actions we choose, because the wages of sin is death. God did not cause suffering. Mankind choosing to sin and do evil results in his own suffering and the suffering of others. For e.g. when parents choose to divorce, their choices will cause the suffering of their children and family members as well. A person's decision to speed while driving might result in another getting hurt.

b) Fallen and Imperfect World

- Due to the sins of mankind, we live in a fallen and imperfect world. E.g. Money-driven decisions made due to greed -> Deforestation -> Global Warming -> Major Climate Changes -> Natural Disasters -> Suffering

- As sin increases, suffering and pain will only intensify and that is why the Bible says in Romans 8:22 (NLT), "For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now." (The Bible already told us way ahead of time that pain and suffering will only get worse. It is compared to a woman in labour whose pain intensifies all the way.)

c) For personal growth and maturity

- Not all forms of sufferings are bad, for example, sport coaches make their athletes go through vigorous training. Though the training is tough, it is necessary to make them better athletes.

- Let us read Romans 3:3-4 "Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope." (We can be moulded and learn many life lessons through suffering.)

d) Suffering leads us to God so that we can experience His goodness.

- God is such a loving God; He chose not to let us die in our sins and suffering. Instead, more than 2000 years ago, He sent His one and only Son, Jesus Christ, to come down from Heaven to Earth as a man, to suffer and die the most painful death. His excruciating pain and suffering was a means of paying the punishment for our sins, so that we can be redeemed from our sins, to find relief, comfort, purpose and joy in this life.

- This does not mean that we no longer go through suffering. Let us read John 16:33, Jesus said, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." Though we might still experience pain and suffering, we have hope because we have a God who loves us and will not leave or abandon us during our times of pain.

- Now I am going to share with you a testimony of how someone through suffering and pain, is able to find God, who is the ultimate peace and relief that we can have in this life.

3. (3min)Testimony / (8.30mins) Show EPL SESSION 2 Baptism Video

Have one prayer point member share a short 3 min testimony on how God turned his/her suffering around for good when he/she chose to turn to God and trust in Him or show the baptism video if there is no suitable testimony.

4. Closing/Altar Call

As we go through today's session, we learn that suffering in this life is not caused by God, but our own choices. Thankfully, God did not leave us alone to suffer, but sent His Son Jesus to suffer and die on our behalf so that we can be set free from our sufferings. You may have made some bad choices in the past and now are suffering in your regrets. Or maybe you are suffering because of something someone else has done against you, but God can turn all this around. Today, if you would like to trust in Jesus and receive freedom from your sufferings, will you open up your palms and follow after me in this prayer? Christians, will you join in too?

"Dear Jesus, I know that I have made mistakes in my life and sinned against You. I need You in my daily life to help me. I believe You love me and died on the Cross for all my sins. I want to leave behind all the things I have done wrong, so please forgive me of all my sins. I invite You to come into my life today and be my Lord and Saviour. Through You, I believe I can find comfort, hope and purpose even in this fallen world. In Your Name I pray, Amen."

Add on to say, "Whether you prayed the prayer with me just now or feel you need more time to consider, do stay open in your heart towards God. He is always a prayer away from anyone who needs help.

5. Closing with Group Time - John 3:16, Personal Testimony and IBLESS:

Ask, "How did you find the time today? We want to now split you all up into **smaller groups** with the friend who invited you, so they can hear more from you through a short group discussion.

- John 3:16 and Personal Testimony
 - o Share John 3:16 to all the visitors in your group.
 - Choose one in the group to share his/her personal testimony of how he/she came to know Jesus and the change he/she experienced since then.
 - o Give out the response Card to your friends
 - o Do follow up with those who have given their life to Jesus either at the altar call earlier or through the John 3:16 presentation.

IBLESS

As all of you are important to us, we would like pray a blessing for you. (Refer to the I-bless) Feel free to choose any blessing that you want and we will definitely keep you in prayer. If you enjoy the EPL Group meeting, continue to join us and you can invite more friends to join us too, but let me know so that I know how many to expect."

Thank your friends for coming. Invite them for weekend services.

E. UPDATE ATTENDANCE AFTER MEETING

Remember to update your attendance after you have completed leading the group.

SESSION 3: DO ANGELS AND DEMONS EXIST?

A. LOGISTICS & PREPARATION

Ice-breaker: Nil Inspire: Use TV or Laptop the video. Go to this link http://bit.ly/EPLCAMPAIGN2019 for the video.

Involve: Prepare 1 Peter 5:8 and John 10:10 verse sheet. Ensure every member has the verses. Look at the appendix 3.

Session length: About 50 min

B. ICE-BREAKER – 15 MINUTES

1. (2 Min) Getting to Know You!

Welcome any new comers. Introduce name and your favourite food.

2. (10 min) Angel and Mortal

- Get everyone to stand up.
- Each person is an angel to two mortals and has to decide who their two mortals are without telling anyone.
- At the count of 3, they will then have to move around and ensure that their two mortals are of equal distance from them. (Give them some time to do so).
- When everyone is in their positions, randomly get individuals to guess who their angel is.
- You can also vary the game by getting people to guess who the two mortals of a particular person are.

C. INSPIRE – 8 MINUTES

Say, just like the game we played earlier, we might not be aware of the existence of angels. But the truth of the matter is, there are countless numbers of angels around us, as recorded in Hebrews 12:22, the verse mentions that there are "thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly." God has tasked the angels to protect us and to reveal God to us.

In the upcoming video, you will see a testimony of how someone encountered angels in a personal way.

EPL Session 3 Teaching VIDEO (7.13 min)

(Pray for your friends while the video is playing)

D. INVOLVE - 22 MINUTES

1. Say, from the video testimonies, we can be certain that angels are real and exist today, even though we cannot see them. In fact, In the beginning of time, ONLY angels existed. Demons were **never** part of God's creation.

- Share about how the angel Lucifer became Satan today.
 - Say, let me share with you about one of the most beautiful angel, by the name of Lucifer, who was put in charge of worship.
 - However, Lucifer did not just want to worship God, but wanted to be worshipped. He wanted to be like God.
 - You know something, like human beings, God also gave angels <u>free will</u> to make choices of their own. Thus together with 1/3 of the angels, Lucifer <u>CHOSE</u> to rebel against God but they lost the war in heaven and were thrown down to earth by God.
 - Lucifer became <u>Satan</u>, when he was expelled from heaven. His pride caused his downfall.
- Let us now consider questions that we often ask, which is "How did Satan come about? Why would a good God Create Satan?"
 - Can we hear from some of you what are possible answers to this question? (allow 2-3 of them to respond).
 - Underlying this question asked is whether God made a mistake in creating Satan.
 - Listen carefully, God did not create Satan, as he is now. Remember, God created a perfect being, Lucifer? But it was by Satan's choice that he disobeyed and rebelled against God. The devil became what he is by his OWN CHOICE. That is why today demons exist as well, alongside with angels.
 - We might not be aware of this, but the activity of the devil is so real and prevalent today. (At this point, if time permits, you can allow for some of them to share what are some possible works of the devil.)
 - Some examples are occult practices, depression, suicide and sleep paralysis. The footprints of the devil can be easily identified, as the works of the devil always lead to death and destruction.
- Mission of demons:
 - Say, Today, just as angels are real and they seek to protect you and reveal God to you, demons are also rampant around us, with a common mission-that is to **DESTROY** each of you and prevent you from knowing that God is your Creator and to stop you from returning to a relationship with God.

Let's read 1 Peter 5:8 (NLT) together, ⁸ Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

2000 years ago, God sent Jesus to die for us on the cross. And on the cross, when Jesus declared "It is finished", He has defeated Satan.
 Satan's fate is sealed, he will be spending eternity in hell. But right now,

he hopes to drag as many people to hell with Him, before Jesus returns and passes the verdict on him.

2. The good news is this, if you are to make the choice to receive Jesus as your personal Lord and Saviour, you will be on the winning team, with God and angels on your side. You will be able to flee from the clutches of the devil. Remember, there is no middle ground. You are either on God's side or Satan's side. You need to take the stand to be on God's side and you can do so by making Jesus the Lord of your life.

- Jesus said this in <u>John 10:10</u>. Let's read the verse together. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.
- Today, you can choose to receive this life that Jesus wants to give you by accepting Him into your life. Are you ok if I close in prayer?

Pray, "Dear God, thank You that because You love us so much, you gave us free choice, so that we will not be robots but we can enter into an authentic relationship with you. I pray that you will help us to be aware of the spiritual realm and the schemes of the devil. May we make the right choices that will lead us to life and not death.

Is there anyone in our midst who wants to take this step of faith to receive Jesus into your life today? When you make this prayer, you are saying that you want to be on God's team. And today, I want to give you an opportunity to do so. All you have to do is say the following prayer after me. Can I also have the believers to join me together in this prayer ?

Say after me, "Dear God, I acknowledge that I am a sinner. By my strength, I am unable to stand against the schemes of the devil. I believe that Jesus is the son of God and you sent Jesus to die for me. Today, I receive You as my personal Lord and Saviour. I choose to be on your team. Thank you Lord for loving me."

With your eyes closed and heads still bowed, I want to encourage those who have said the prayer earlier to quickly open up your palms so that I can pray a blessing for you. As you open up your palms, it is an indication to God of this decision you have made. So at the count of three, I want to encourage you to open up your palms...1...2...3.

Thank You Lord for those who have made the decision to receive You as their personal Lord and Saviour. May you continue to reveal Yourself to them. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

3. Closing with Group Time - John 3:16, Personal Testimony and IBLESS: Ask, "How did you find the time today? We want to now split you all up into smaller groups with the friend who invited you, so they can hear more from you through a short group discussion.

- John 3:16 and Personal Testimony

• Share John 3:16 to all the visitors in your group.

- Choose one in the group to share his/her personal testimony of how he/she came to know Jesus and the change his/her experienced since then.
- o Give out the response Card to your friends
- Do follow up with those who have given their life to Jesus either at the altar call earlier or through the John 3:16 presentation.

- IBLESS

As all of you are important to us, we would like pray a blessing for you. (Refer to the I-bless) Feel free to choose any blessing that you want and we will definitely keep you in prayer. If you enjoy the EPL Group meeting, continue to join us and you can invite more friends to join us too, but let me know so that I know how many to expect."

Thank your friends for coming. Invite them for weekend services.



E. UPDATE ATTENDANCE AFTER MEETING

Remember to update your attendance after you have completed leading the group.

SESSION 4: IS GOD DEAD OR ALIVE?

A. LOGISTICS & PREPARATION

Ice-breaker:

Slips of paper (number of papers dependant on the number of people present)

Inspire: Use TV or Laptop the video. Go to this link http://bit.ly/EPLCAMPAIGN2019 for the video.

Involve: Prepare Romans 1:20-21 and Colossians 1:16-17 verse sheet. Ensure every member has the verses. Look at the appendix 4.

Session length: About 50 min

B. ICE-BREAKER – 15 MINUTES

1. (2 min) Getting to Know You!

Welcome any new comers. Introduce name and your favourite moment of your life where you feel the most 'ALIVE'. For e.g, attend KPOP Concert

2. (10 min) Dead Or Alive

All slips of papers to be written with the word 'DEAD' except for one slip of paper with the word 'ALIVE'. Hide all the slips of papers around the venue before the session starts. The slip of paper with the word 'ALIVE' must be kept in a place where it is the most difficult to be found.

- Get everyone to stand up and search for the slip of paper with the word 'ALIVE'
- The person who is the first to find 'ALIVE' will be exempted from the forfeit. The rest will be considered 'DEAD'.
- Forfeit is to take a we-fie. All the 'DEAD' will act 'sian' while the only person who is 'ALIVE' look happy in the picture.
- The school with the most creative we-fie will get a prize. Submit the picture through your adult mentor.

C. INSPIRE – 6 MINUTES

Say, just like the game we played earlier, we might not know the existence of God in our lives but when we open our eyes and look around us hard enough, there is much evidence which points us to God. He is alive and real!

In the upcoming video, you will discover that molecular biology reveals a language in DNA that is unexplainable by natural causes. The make-up of a human body will blow your mind!

EPL Session 4 Teaching VIDEO (5.29 min)

D. INVOLVE – 29 MINUTES

- **1.** Say, from the video, we now know that the information (DNA) inside the cell is truly mind-boggling. Today we will explore why creation points us to God.
 - How Creation points us to the existence of a Creator. E.g. DNA

Let us read the following verses together, Romans 1: 20 - 21 (MSG) states "But the basic reality of God is plain enough. Open your eyes and there it is! By taking a long and thoughtful look at what God has created, people have always been able to see what their eyes as such can't see: eternal power, for instance, and the mystery of his divine being. So nobody has a good excuse."

- As the verse tells us, the evidence of God can be found in the evidence of creation. We have no excuse to say God doesn't exist when we look around us!
- DNA is an example of Creation, pointing towards the existence of God.
- In the video, we saw how each cell contains a very small amount of DNA which contains sufficient information to give rise to all life forms on earth.
- Therefore the DNA cannot be by chance and its creator has to be powerful, smart and very imaginative to be able to create all the different type of living things around us.
- How the intricate design of DNA points towards our creator.

Say, A few amazing facts of DNA are:

- If you were to open up just one cell in your body and uncoil the strand of DNA it would be almost 1.8 metres long.
- If you put all the DNA molecules in your body end to end, the DNA would reach from the Earth to the Sun and back over 600 times.
- 1 single gram of DNA is capable of holding an amazing 700 terabytes of data!
- If we want to store all digital information in this world, all we need is 2 grams of DNA.
- From the amazing facts above, it shows us that this LIFE of ours can only be created by a higher and far more intelligent being than humans. He is the one who programmes us from within. He is GOD, our CREATOR!

- Now I am going to share with you a testimony of how someone realises that God is alive through an encounter with Him!

2. (3min) Testimony / (4.40min) Show EPL SESSION 4 Baptism Video

- Have one prayer point member share a short 3 min testimony on how he/she realises that God is alive through an encounter/incident that happen to him/her or show the baptism video if there is no suitable testimony.

3. Closing/Altar Call

Colossians 1:16-17 tells us that Jesus is the Creator. Let's read the verse together.

"For through him (Jesus) God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth.

He made the things we can see and the things we can't see such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him.¹⁷ He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together."

- Say, The most important truth for us this in this session is that this Creator, this God that creation points to is not some distant, detached and disinterested higher being who doesn't care about us, who created the universe and then walked away. We are precious and beautiful of all of God's Creation. He created us so that He can fellowship and have a relationship with us!
- What we learn in secondary school science about cell is true it is indeed the BASIC UNIT OF LIFE and this life we have comes basically from God. The good news is this, if you are to make the choice to receive Jesus as your personal Lord and Saviour, the one who gives us life, you will become ALIVE from the inside out.

- Today, you can choose to accept Jesus who is the Creator of Heaven and Earth. Are you ok if I close in prayer? Pray, "Dear God, thank You that because You love us so much, you gave us free choice, so that we will not be robots but we can enter into an authentic relationship with you. I pray that you will help us to know you personally as our Creator who has indeed a wonderful plan for our lives."

Is there anyone in our midst who wants to take this step of faith to receive Jesus into your life today? When you make this prayer, you are saying that you want to know God, the Creator of Heaven and Earth personally. And today, I want to give you an opportunity to do so. All you have to do is say the following prayer after me. Can I also have the believers to join me together in the prayer?

Say after me,"Dear God, I acknowledge that I am a sinner. I want to live a life that is purposeful and meaningful in you. I believe that Jesus is the son of God and you sent Jesus to die for me. Today, I receive You as my personal Lord and Saviour. I choose to be on your team. Thank You Lord for loving me."

With your eyes closed and heads still bowed, I want to encourage those who have said the prayer earlier to quickly lift up your hands, so that I can pray a blessing for you. As you lift up your hands, it is an indication to God of this decision you have made to. So at the count of three, I want to encourage you to open up your palms1...2...3.

Thank You Lord for those who have made the decision to receive You as their personal Lord and Saviour. May you continue to reveal Yourself to them. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

4. (15min) Closing with Group Time - John 3:16, Personal Testimony and IBLESS:

Ask, "How did you find the time today? We want to now split you all up into **smaller groups** with the friend who invited you, so they can hear more from you through a short group discussion.

- John 3:16 and Personal Testimony
 - Share John 3:16 to all the visitors in your group.
 - Choose one in the group to share his/her personal testimony of how he/she came to know Jesus and the change he/she experienced since then.
 - Give out the response Card to your friends
 - Do follow up with those who have given their life to Jesus either at the altar call earlier or through the John 3:16 presentation.

- IBLESS

As all of you are important to us, we would like pray a blessing for you. (Refer to the I-bless) Feel free to choose any blessing that you want and we will definitely keep you in prayer. If you enjoy the EPL Group meeting, continue to join us and you can invite more friends to join us too, but let me know so that I know how many to expect."

E. UPDATE ATTENDANCE AFTER MEETING

Remember to update your attendance after you have completed leading the group.

John 3:16: Presentation

GOD

<u>Step 1:</u>

Everything begins with God. God created the heavens and the earth. God is not only powerful but personal. He is a loving God.

GOD / MAN

Step 2: God created man (you and I) to be with Him forever.

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GOD/MAN	LIFE
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<u>Step 3:</u>

God intended for us to have a permanent relationship with Him. This is called eternal or everlasting life.

GOD / MAN → LIFE

MAN

Step 4: When He created us, He breathed His spirit into us. He also created us to have a free will – to make our own choices. Man chose to disobey God.

By His choice, man is separated from God !

GOD / N	1AN		→ I	LIFE
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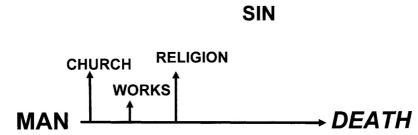
SIN

MAN

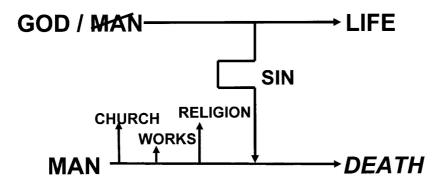
<u>Step 5:</u> This results in SIN.SIN means choosing our own way, instead of God's way. Sin is not just doing wrong things like lying, cheating, killing. Sin is a nature within uswe want to do our own thing; we do not want to do what God wants us to do.

GOD /	MAN-	 LIFE
GOD /	JUHAIN -	

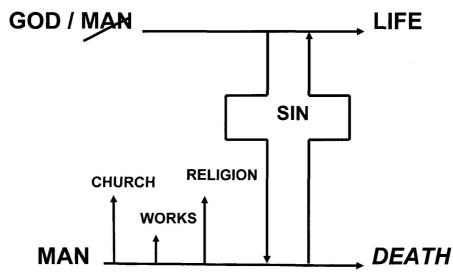
SIN

Step 6: The opposite of LIFE is death – physical and spiritual separation from God. Yet, man has a spirit that longs to go back to God. 

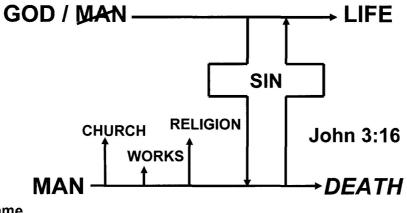
Step 7: Man tried his own ways to reach Godlike going to church; doing good works; trying other religions etc. All these ways failed to reach God. We cannot reach God through our own efforts.



<u>Step 8</u>: Because God loves us so much,He is willing to provide the only solution for man's sin. God in His true love for mankind, sent His only son, Jesus, to earth to reach down to us.

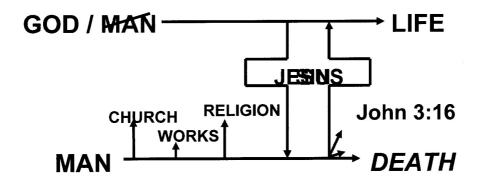


<u>Step 9</u>: Jesus died on the cross for your sin and mine! He took all of our sin, suffering in our place. He did not just die. He resurrected from the dead. This shows that He has power to overcome sin and death. He spent time with His disciples and many others before He ascended to heaven.

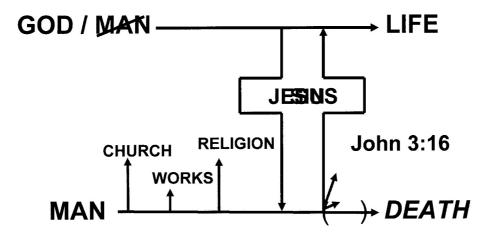


My Name Your Name

<u>Step 10</u>: What Jesus has done is summarised in John 3:16. Have you heard of John 3:16? "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes on Him should not die, but have everlasting life."Let me write my own name instead of man. Let's also write down your name below mine.



Step 11: (OVERWRITE 'JESUS" ON TOP OF THE WORD 'SIN' IN THE CROSS).Jesus took away our sins when He died on the cross. Therefore, we can go back to God. There is a 'fork in the road' that leads away from death to LIFE. When we choose to follow Christ, we need to be willing to live for Him, obey Him and follow His will for our life.



Step 12: Right now, you can decide. Instead of living in your present condition, away from God, you can go back to Him. Do you want to go back to God through Jesus Christ? Do you want to receive Jesus Christ into your life?