

**Group Leader Guide – January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026****Group Announcements:**

- Night of Prayer & Worship Jan 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>
- Child Dedications – Jan 18th
- Annual Conference & Italian Themed Potluck – Jan 25<sup>th</sup> @ 6 pm
- If you would like to host a group in the next season, let your group leader know!

**Attendance:**

- Group leaders, please submit your attendance by person's name through our Leader Tools page [winacity.com/leader-tools](http://winacity.com/leader-tools) –

**FELLOWSHIP:**

During this time, you may plan for food. This could be anything from just snacks to a full dinner.

Use your group chat and create a place where people can be informed of the times for your group and what to bring for food.

Games are also appropriate. YouTube and Google offer a wide range of games for you to choose from.

**WARM UP:**

As a starting point for your group discussion, consider asking questions that encourage conversation and help participants share about themselves.

- **What was your favorite gift you received over the holidays? Fun answers encouraged!** 10 min  
total time for discussion

**LEARN IT: Kingdom Vision Requires Submission to His Authority**

**Read:** Matthew 4:17

*From that time, Jesus began to preach and say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”*

Are there areas of your life that God might be showing you that you're not yet ready to obey Him in?

Share Briefly Allow 3-5 min for discussion.

**Leader Note:** The Kingdom becomes visible not when we understand it better, but when we surrender more fully to the King who rules it. Repentance is not about shame, but about realigning our hearts to the will of God.

**SHARE IT: Kingdom Ethics Reveal What Life Under the King Looks Like**

**Read:** Matthew 5:3-11

*Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.*

Are there any of these ethics you haven't reordered your life around? What could be stopping you? 3-5 min discussion

**Leader Note:** The ethics of the Kingdom reveal the character of the King. When Jesus truly reigns in our hearts, lives are transformed from the inside out, and His rule becomes visible through the way we live. God does not entrust Kingdom authority to those who refuse transformation

### LIVE IT: Kingdom Advancement Happens Through Surrendered Obedience

**Read:** Romans 12:1-2

*Therefore, I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.*

Are there areas of your life where have you been substituting intention ("I want to") for obedience ("I will")? Share Briefly 5-10 min for reflection and prayer (maybe turn on some worship music)

**Leader Note:** The Kingdom advances through **surrendered obedience**, not noise, ambition, or intention. When Jesus is King, surrender becomes practical, control is released, forgiveness is chosen, compromise is confronted, and provision is trusted. Hearing His words without acting builds on sand; obedience builds on the Rock. The reign of the King becomes visible, and the Kingdom moves forward when our lives say "yes" in real, costly, daily ways.

### PRAY:

Use a group chat (WhatsApp, Messenger, Instagram, etc.) and add everyone in your group. Post your group's prayer requests here during your meetings and throughout the week. Encourage everyone to pray for these needs daily. You may also post or do live video as a daily encouragement for everyone, like scripture verses, encouraging thoughts, spontaneous hangouts, etc.

- Is there something you are waiting on God to do, where He's waiting on you to obey Him?  
**Leaders, please prepare some YouTube worship music and spend some time with your group waiting in His presence and worshiping Him.**
- give each group member a chance to pray for any other needs
- Share testimonies with each other; you may send them to [stella@winacity.com](mailto:stella@winacity.com) so we can encourage the church

### Suggestion:

- You may lay hands on people who need prayer after you have asked for permission.
- You may also take communion together
- If you have the space and availability, you may do a time of worship

### Suggested timeframes for your group:

- 20-30 minutes for fellowship
- 10-15 minutes for Warm up
- 30 minutes for the study
- 10-15 minutes for sharing needs and prayer