

# Leader Notes: Easter Experience

Session Two- My Life Can Change

## Before Everyone Arrives

Be sure to have watched the leader training videos on Disc 3 for great training on leading. Be sure to test your DVD and watch the *intro* and *episode two* for “My Life Can Change.”

Suggested agenda for a 90-minute group gathering:

25 minutes: welcome, appetizers, icebreakers, and connecting with one another.

30 minutes: intro video and main video

20 minutes: discussion

15 minutes: prayer requests, prayer, and departure

\* Do your best to start and end on time each week

## During Your Meeting

Make sure you are encouraging everyone to bring their Bibles with them and actually open the text while the passages are being read. Try to avoid the common mistake of expecting only the reader to have their Bible opened while the rest of the group listens. It is a proven fact that people retain more information when they both *hear* and *see* the material.

At this point again confirm that everyone has a discussion guide and is ready to take notes on the video or about questions they may ask later. Remember, additional guides are available in the Southeast *Living Word Bookstore* for \$3.00.

## After Watching the Video

Again, the first three videos may elicit a significant emotional response from your group. As the leader you should always be willing to begin the after-video discussions by sharing your own insights, questions, etc... from what you have seen. However, continue to be sensitive to the fact that some people simply may not be ready to talk immediately after seeing the violent and heart-wrenching scenes from the curriculum.

Remember to keep prayer a central focus during these early weeks. Especially when a group begins meeting for the first time a leader's ability to model genuine prayer is very important. Simply put, don't try and be something you're not. There is no need for fancy words or long exhaustive prayers. Rather, ask the members of your group to explain what is on their hearts that you can pray together about. When they are done then simply reword their comments to God. There's nothing magical about prayer, but as Christians we can take hope in its effectiveness.

Finally, before everyone leaves go over the section together. There is always a scripture verse to be memorized and some sort of assignment or challenge for group members to do before your next meeting. Take the opportunity to discuss why this is important and encourage everyone to participate.

