



HIS HEALING LIGHT
MINISTRIES

LIFTING UP Leaders

Words for the Journey:

Podcast of the week: [Why Do Bad Things Happen?](#)

Journey App:

Cyndy's Blog: [Is God Real or Abstract to You?](#)

Leader Letter #14

To Healing Journey Leaders:

In the famous Serenity Prayer by Reinhold Niebuhr, he says:

God, give us grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed, courage to change the things which should be changed, and the wisdom to distinguish one from the other.

I feature Niebuhr's prayer in my Bible study, *Running with Horses*, but it certainly fits for anyone leading a Healing Journey small group. There is MUCH we must accept in order to be an effective leader. Here's a sample list of things we cannot control and, therefore, need grace to accept:

- Their decision to attend or not attend
- Their decision whether to believe God or not
- Their desire for healing
- Their denial about their need for help and/or truth
- How they view truth
- That you can't heal them!!!

By virtue of the fact that you are a leader, you can't help but agonize over your group members at times. You so badly want them to receive healing! But that is utterly out of your control. Healing comes from God and is received by anyone who chooses to receive it. It is a transaction between each student and the Lord.

That doesn't mean there aren't things within your possibility list. You are their leader and there are things you can say and do:

- Fellowship events, meals together, 1-on-1 chats over coffee, encouraging calls and emails help group members stick with the class. Be connected!
- Accepting them and the place where they're at helps them believe God loves them.
- Encouraging them to get the healing they came for increases their desire to heal.
- Prayer, love, and patience helps them see their true need and view truth as God does.
- Standing firm in prayer and belief that God is in control of their life (not you) is the best thing you can do to help them heal.

I appreciate your faithfulness to your group each week. You are a blessing!

...Relax in the Lord and enjoy the journey!

Tip of the week:

Regardless of when your class began, you will encounter a few holidays along the way, Christmas, of course, being the biggest one. Taking breaks for holidays or other reasons can be hard on students for many reasons. Please read pages 17 and 80 in your Small Group Leader's Guide for my full comments on this subject. To counteract the problems we commonly encounter, step up the prayer, plan a small group get-together, stay in close touch, and, most importantly, keep your breaks, especially Christmas break, short (no more than 2 weeks off)!

Blessings,



His Healing Light Ministries' Director

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