



# Sermon-Based Small Group Leader Notes

For the week of October 16, 2011 (week 5 of 10)

## Leader Guide

### Opening Reminder

Review the Group Covenant with your group this week.

### Topic

Sermon Title: "How to Wreck Your Life"

Sermon Series: *How to Wreck Your Life* (week 1 of 5)

Scripture: Exodus 32:1, 22-24

Sermon by: Pastor Harrington

### Goals for this Gathering

- To allow potential participants a no-pressure opportunity to visit your group
- To discuss group expectations & commitment by reviewing the Group Covenant
- To discuss the homework
- To pray together

### Prayer

- Take prayer requests and praises
- Pray for all Small Groups meeting at Northwest and in homes
- Pray for the spiritual growth of your group
- Pray for the greater Milwaukee area

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## Getting Started

### Reminder to Leader

*Encourage participants to take a few minutes each week to read the group preparation guide, jotting down responses to the questions.*

- The questions in this section begin the discussion of what an idol is and why people have them.
- **Question 4** is directly related to the sermon about the golden calf.

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## Into the Bible

- In this section, participants are asked to look up additional Bible references that talk about idols and God's reaction to people having them.
  - Encourage members to discuss God's specific responses to the people in each of the verses that are being read.
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## Digging Deeper

- The questions in this section encourage members to look at their own lives.
- Allow your group to answer these more personal questions as they feel comfortable.
- **Question 6** asks how we can eliminate idols in our own lives. Depending on the willingness of members to share personal details and struggles, this could be changed to "What can people, in general, do to eliminate some of their idols?"
- The last verse is intended to end the discussion on a positive note with one of God's promises.

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## Prayer Requests and Closing Prayer