NURSES CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

NCF Group Care Plan

This Bible study is for student leaders and faculty advisors to create a plan of care that will promote the spiritual health of students and faculty in their school of nursing and their campus within a framework of NCF ministry.

Read the following Scripture passage and discuss the questions that follow.

Testing the Soil

A Bible study from Luke 8:4-9, 11-15 (NIV)

⁴While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: ⁵ "A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds ate it up. ⁶Some fell on rocky ground, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. ⁷Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. ⁸Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown."

When he said this, he called out, "Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear."

⁹ His disciples asked him what this parable meant . . . ¹¹ "This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. ¹² Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. ¹³ Those on the rocky ground are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. ¹⁴ The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. ¹⁵ But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop."

Testing the Soil of Nursing School

In nursing school, students use the nursing process to prepare nursing care plans to promote high-quality patient outcomes and to guide their patient care. Use the steps in the nursing process to develop a plan of care to improve your personal spiritual health and the spiritual health of student and faculty members as you seek to follow Jesus together in NCF.

ASSESS

- 1. What is the quality of your personal spiritual "soil"? Is it hard, rocky, weedy or fertile?
- 2. What is the quality of "soil" of the people in your nursing school? Is it hard, rocky, weedy or fertile?
- 3. What are the "weeds" in nursing school that can choke out God's life-giving words among students and faculty?
- 4. What spiritual needs do you see among students and faculty that an NCF chapter can address?
- 5. Who can join with you in planning for NCF ministry in your school?

PLAN

- 1. Think about the soil of your heart. What are ways you can deepen your roots in the Lord, remove weeds and improve the condition of your spiritual soil?
- 2. What would "a fruitful crop" look like on your campus?
- 3. How can you plant and nourish the Word of God among students and faculty in your nursing school or on your campus?
- 4. Spend time praying and discussing how you can follow Jesus by actively responding to this Scripture passage.

IMPLEMENT

- What actions does God want you to implement based on your assessment and plan? (See the evaluation questions on the <u>Discipleship Cycle Worksheet</u>, a helpful tool you can use throughout the year to modify your NCF Group Care Plan.)
- 2. Invite others to join with you as a core group to start a NCF small group or chapter. Discuss the vision and plan that God has given you.
- 3. Delegate actions according to peoples' gifts, abilities and availability.
- 4. Step out in faith and implement the plan- reach out to students and faculty!

EVALUATE

- 1. Meet with the core group to interpret what God is saying to you and where he is working.
- 2. Evaluate the Bible study and outreach activities:
 - a. Was there good discussion? Did group members share openly? Do they want to invite their friends to join them in exploring God's Word?
 - b. Did you host an outreach activity? What was the motivating factor? Was it both fun and meaningful? Did it promote discussion and curiosity about spiritual realities?
- 3. Pray that God will help you revise your plan as needed to be more effective in sharing the seed of his Word in your school and your campus.

Now that you've completed this study, your group may want to use more NCF Bible studies for nursing students. See <u>Healing Encounters with Jesus</u> and <u>What's Vital?</u> Integrate the <u>NCF Discipleship Cycle</u> to hear the Word and follow Jesus in his mission on your campus. (See more <u>NCF Bible Study Resources</u> and ideas for <u>outreach and evangelism</u>.)

New International Version (NIV)

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