

HOME CHURCH OR SMALL GROUP/CLASS QUESTIONS

1. **“Breaking the Ice” question:** (group facilitator)
 2. **Check-ins:** What’s been happening in your week(s) since last meeting? Introduce yourself if new/new people in group, check in with each other
 3. **Care:** Needs in the group; name needs and sentence prayers (short sentences/ open ended, not long-winded) at end
 4. **Compassion:** What compassion work is the group planning? Are you inviting your neighbors to join?
 5. **Group Announcements** (church-wide and group-only)
 6. **Dig in:** Any reflections, discernments, disagreements from last week’s teaching (or since you last met)? Look at the Bible passage(s) again and read some of them out loud in the group (and other verses that may have been mentioned). What jumps out at you? These questions are only guides. You may go other directions based on the Bible passage and teaching as well!
- + Share with the group a special or regular journey you have taken, or will take. What did you like about it? What parts of a journey do you enjoy, not enjoy? Share!
- + Using the idea of stages to speak of the Christian life and seeing it as a journey may be newer to you, what do you think about this?
- + If we don’t see our faith life as a walk or journey, what other ways would we speak about it? Remember we journey with Jesus and others. It’s based in relationship.
- + How do you experience God most, by awe, a sense of need, nature, or a search for greater meaning? Explain.
- + When have you recognized or felt God strongly in your life?
- + Read the stories of the leper (Mark 1.40-45) and woman with a hemorrhage (Mark 5.25-34). Imagine yourself in the scene as either approaching Jesus. What are you thinking? How does Jesus sound to you? What are some of your reactions and observations? Read these passages out loud and then reflect what you can to the group.
- + Finish by reading Psalm 23 together.

7. **End and Homework:** Final questions, prayer huddles for personal requests. Consider breaking into small groups (huddles) of 2-4, by gender, if large enough.

JANUARY 14, 2017

The Critical Journey
STAGES OF FAITH

PILGRIM CHURCH

The Critical Journey Part 1**I. INTRODUCING THE SPIRITUAL JOURNEY****II. BIG IDEA****III. LIFE IN CHRIST IS A JOURNEY.**

Are you moving forward this morning?

IV. HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE SPIRITUAL JOURNEY: DESTINATIONS AS “STAGES”**A. Stages: Help or hindrance?**

- (a) Stages identified in Critical Journey J.O. Hagberg & R.A. Guelich

B. Instructions regarding the journey of faith stages**V. STAGE 1****A. Illustration****B. What’s happening/what Scripture points to this?**

C. What is Stage 1

1) Defining it

2) What faith looks like at it

3) The goal at Stage 1

4) What the church does (you and I together)

5) What you will do if you are here

D. Getting stuck here “caged”

1)

2)

3)

4)

E. Moving Forward...

1)

2)

3)

4)

SUMMARY

At this stage you are realizing that this world is not really your home, not as it is anyway. You realize there is another kingdom, another game in town. You begin to see this world and your life as in a battle. This becomes clearer towards the end...

F. Stewardship and Ministry at Stage 1

1)

2)

3)

4)

VI. SO WHAT? NOW WHAT?