Champions Arise Study Guide Series: Adult Children of Divorce

Program #CA 43 (ACD) - Overview of Adult Children of Divorce (ACD) Issues Part 1

Focus passage – Matthew 19:5-6, "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

1) What comes to mind when you hear the word "divorce"?
Are most people whose parents are divorced (or married in name only) aware of the impact it's having on them?
3) In the program, what was the first issue adult children of divorce often experience?
Why? 1 2 3
4) In the program, what was the second issue ACD often experience?
5) In the program, what was the third issue ACD often experience?
6) In the program, what was the fourth issue ACD often experience?

Commitment: I commit to learning more about this issue for myself or for others I know.

Overview of Adult Children of Divorce (ACD) Issues Part 1- LEADER'S GUIDE

- 1. Thank everyone for coming.
- 2. Open in prayer
- 3. Read the focus passage.
- 4. Ask men to answer Question #1.
- 5. Listen to the program: "Overview of Adult Children of Divorce Issues Part 1"
- 6. After the program is finished, allow time for comments or questions on the program
- 7. Review the answers to the five remaining questions with the men in the group. Encourage everyone to participate, but never force or shame someone into participating.
 - a. Question #2 answer: <u>Not usually. Most believe their parents' divorce has little or no impact on their current relationships.</u>
 - b. Question #3 answer: They have ongoing unresolved anger.

Three reasons why are:

- 1. Because of the many losses, the children experience,
- 2. Because of the blame ACD feel toward their parents and others.
- 3. <u>Because ACD were not able to express their anger about their parents'</u> <u>divorce when they were young.</u>
- c. Question #4 answer: A fear of doom
- d. Question #5 answer: Fear of being abandoned.
- e. Question #6 answer: Fear of getting married.
- 8. Ask the men what was most important to them from this teaching.
- 9. Ask the men to commit to helping those who have experienced parental divorce.
- 10. Confirm the time for the next meeting
- 11. Take prayer requests.
- 12. Close in prayer

Sample prayer: Heavenly Father, help us to be sensitive to those who have divorced parents and those with emotionally divorced parents. In Jesus name, Amen.