

LIFE GROUPS

STARTING UP

Life Groups are comprised of 3-5 people of the same gender that help us live with intentionality "For The Life of the World" throughout the week. You can meet anywhere & anytime in your weekly "circles" of community for instance at a local coffee shop, during a lunch break, or after a workout. LGs meet 2-4 times each month to encourage each other in Bible reading, prayer, & sharing the good news of Jesus in their circles.

BEST PRACTICES

- Start a group with at least one other person that's as committed as you.
- Have a consistent day, time, & location (have a bad weather plan if outside)
- Be friendly to staff & acquaintances where you meet
- Have a consistent Group Time schedule (see next page)
- Connect with each other through questions (like the starter questions on the M.A.P.S. guide or the "GET TO KNOW YOU" questions below).
- "M.A.P.S." a passage of the Bible together during the group time. To cover more ground, read a chapter together & then assign the next chapter for the group to "M.A.P.S." on their own for the week & debrief how it went at the next LG.
- Start small: shorter time frames when you begin - 1 hour meeting, once a week, for 8 weeks, reading through a short book. After 8 weeks, evaluate: Do you need to change? What works what doesn't? Does anyone want to continue?
- Read the Bible together; This is not just a social gathering. It might feel awkward at first and that's ok. It's worth it.
- Don't be upset if people can't continue. Invite them to another one next time.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

As you begin a new group, it's important to get a clear understanding of where each person's background & goals; these questions will help with that. DON'T ask them all in the first meeting. Trust takes time.

1. HERITAGE: How have your family relationships influenced your life? Who/What has influenced your faith? Who would you consider a disciple-maker or mentor to you? What did that entail?
2. HEROES: What relationships significantly influenced your character or shaped your direction (positively & negatively)? How? Why?
3. HIGH POINTS: What experiences have you especially enjoyed? Felt closest to God? Why?
4. HARD TIMES: What experiences were especially difficult or painful? Felt furthest from God? Why?
5. HABITS: What are some essential habits you have in place that refocus your identity, value, and purpose in Christ? Great Chance to talk through Bible study, worship, biblical community, serving, giving, etc.
6. HANG UPS: What are some habits or struggles that you regularly face in opposition to who you are in Christ? - Talk about confession & repentance and walking by the Spirit (according to God's Word, by faith, with community).



LIFE GROUPS

SAMPLE GROUP TIME & MAPS GUIDE

STARTER QUESTIONS

20 MINUTES

HOW ARE YOU & THE PEOPLE IN YOUR CIRCLES OF INFLUENCE (FAMILY, WORK, SCHOOL)?
WHAT’S GOD BEEN TEACHING YOU SINCE WE LAST MET?
WERE YOU ABLE TO SHARE WHAT YOU’VE LEARNED WITH ANYONE SINCE WE LAST MET?
OR CHOOSE A "GET TO KNOW YOU" QUESTION.

MEDITATE

10 MINUTES

WHAT DID YOU LIKE ABOUT THIS PASSAGE?
WHAT SURPRISED OR CONFUSED YOU? WHY?
WHAT DID THIS PASSAGE MEAN FOR THE ORIGINAL AUDIENCE?
WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE TELL US ABOUT...
GOD? PEOPLE? RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOD & PEOPLE?
WHAT'S THE TIMELESS TRUTH FOR ALL PEOPLE?

APPLY

10 MINUTES

HOW DOES THIS PASSAGE CHANGE HOW I VIEW GOD, MYSELF, OR OTHERS?
HOW DOES THIS TRUTH CHANGE MY HEAD (THINKING), HEART (FEELING), HANDS (DOING)?
WRITE OUT A SENTENCE OF WHAT THIS VERSE MEANS FOR ME.

PRAY

10 MINUTES

PRAISE - THANK GOD FOR WHO HE IS & WHAT HE DOES.
REPENT - CONFESS YOUR SINS & TURN TOWARD GOD'S PLAN.
ASK - ACKNOWLEDGE THAT YOU NEED GOD'S PROVISION.
YIELD - TRUST HIS PERFECT PURPOSE & PLAN IN EVERYTHING.

SHARE

10 MINUTES

IDENTIFY WITH WHOM & HOW YOU MIGHT SHARE THIS WEEK.
1) WRITE DOWN WHAT YOU LEARNED TODAY.
2) ASK GOD FOR WISDOM FOR HOW/WHEN TO SHARE.
3) DON’T PREACH AT PEOPLE; SHARE WITH PEOPLE. (“OH THAT REMINDS ME OF SOMETHING I WAS TALKING ABOUT WITH MY FRIENDS THIS MORNING... IT REALLY CHALLENGED ME TO....”)

SHARE

PRAY

APPLY

MEDITATE

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MAPS STARTERS

"M.A.P.S." a passage of the Bible together during the group time. To cover more ground, read a chapter together & then assign the next chapter for the group to "M.A.P.S." on their own for the week & debrief how it went at the next group.

GOSPEL: MARK

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THE CHURCH & CHRISTIAN LIVING

EPHESIANS

1:1-144:1-16

1:15-234:17-32

2:1-105:1-16

2:11-225:16-33

3:1-136:1-9

3:14-216:10-24

EXPLORING THE BIBLE

GENESIS 1:1-25
GENESIS 2:4-24
GENESIS 3:1-24
GENESIS 12:1-8
GENESIS 15:1-6,
GENESIS 17:1-8
EXODUS 2:23-25, 3:1-12
EXODUS 3:13-15
EXODUS 34:5-7
PSALM 145:8-9
DEUTERONOMY 5:1-21; 5:32-6:2
LEVITICUS 4:13-31, JOHN 1:29-37
HEBREWS 4:14-16, 1 JOHN 1:7-2:2
ISAIAH 52:13-15, 53:1-12
LUKE 23:1-49
LUKE 23:50-56, 24:1-12
LUKE 24:31-53
MATTHEW 28:19-20, ACTS 1:6-8
2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-21
ACTS 17:26-34

REVELATION 1:1-10
REVELATION 7:9-17
REVELATION 21
REVELATION 22
PSALM 1
PSALM 2
PSALM 14
PSALM 19
PSALM 32
PSALM 53
PSALM 139
JOHN 1:19-34
MATTHEW 4:1-22
JOHN 1
JOHN 4
MARK 5
JOHN 11:1-44
JOHN 14:1-14
JOHN 19:28-42