

# LifeGroup Discussion Guide

The following is a guide to help structure your time as a group together. Group time is made up of 4 elements: Catching Up On Life, Daily Habits Check-in, Teaching Discussion, and Engage the Heart. You **do not** have to cover **all 4** elements each week, the goal is to cover all 4 of them *over time*.

## Catch Up On Life

*As a church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10,15).*

*Suggested time: 10-20 minutes*

- How are you doing? Do you have any practical needs?
- What can you thank God for this week?
- When were you most aware of Jesus' presence this week?
- When were you least aware of Jesus' presence this week?

## ***Review the Mission:***

*Just like God the Father sent Jesus on a mission of reconciliation for us, Jesus sends us out as ambassadors of His reconciliation. We are called to make disciples wherever we go because Jesus changes everything. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)*

*Suggested time: 10-20 minutes*

- Who are you building with and how can we help/pray?
- How can you adjust or improve your rhythms to better serve being missional?
- Spend some time praying for our non believing friends by name and pray for boldness to engage them with the good news of Jesus.

# Teaching Discussion

*God uses the Scriptures to reveal Himself to us, equip us to live the good life he's designed for us, expose our sin, and strengthen us as we follow Him. Additionally, we want to make sure that we aren't just hearing teaching from the Scriptures on Sundays, but also applying it to our lives throughout the week." (Matthew 7:24-27, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25)*

*Suggested Time: 20-40 minutes*

Read the following out loud:

*In the sermon, we were called to take our friendship needs to Jesus. And, we go to Him with our inability to be a true friend to others. We don't want to "weaponize" this sermon and use it as a way to critique and condemn the people around us. Rather, we turn our focus onto the friend that we are to others and the friend that Jesus is to us. At the same time, we want to be honest about our loneliness and how we long for friendships that are deeper and more significant than we currently have.*

- Jesus is the ultimate friend we need. When we don't look to Him first, we try to find in others what only He can provide. This week, how have you cultivated your friendship with Jesus?
- In the sermon we said biblical friendship is committed - they are *for* and *with* one another. In what ways have you fallen short as a friend to others?
- In what ways do you currently sense the need for meaningful friendships? (Disclaimer: you can only answer if you've answered the previous question. Remember, we are wired for relationships so we want to honestly diagnose how we're feeling in our friendships without tearing others down.)
- What does repentance look like in your friendships with others? How can you be a committed friend who is *for* and *with* others? (Examples can include seeking reconciliation, taking the initiative, showing hospitality, confessing sin to others, etc)
- This week, what's one thing you can do to grow in your friendship with Jesus?

# Engage the Heart

*Jesus calls us to walk in the light, confessing our sins to God and each other. God's Spirit works through confession and community to lead us to repentance. (Romans 3:23-24, James 5:16 and 1 John 1:5-10)*

*Suggested Time: 20-40 minutes*

- What sin do you need to confess to God? What are you struggling to trust Jesus with this week? How can you give Him control of it?
- Has the Holy Spirit been prompting you to do anything that you've been resisting? What step(s) do you need to take to walk in obedience?
- What is God doing in your life and heart in light of the current situation and circumstances?

## Pray

*Close your time together by praying for one another*

- Pray for the Spirit to work in you as you take steps of repentance
- Pray for God to meet the needs of those in your group
- Pray for the sick and vulnerable