



"Team Talk"



LIFE GROUPS: CHRIST CENTERED COMMUNITIES OF
CONNECTING, LEARNING, SERVING

TUNING IN: (approx. 10 min)

Each Life Group gathering we want to set our hearts and minds on Christ and His active presence and leadership in our midst.

This week tune in to His presence by trying the following idea:

- Find a worship song that is meaningful to you and either sing it together or listen to a recording of it.
- Share with the group why this song speaks to you and allow others to share their thoughts as well. Invite short prayers of praise in response.

CONNECTING: (approx. 10 min.)

Each Life Group gathering we want to create intentional space to get to know one another better.

This week: What's one great/good thing that you did this week?

What's one mistake that you made this week?

LEARNING: (approx. 30 min.)

Each Life Group gathering is an environment for us to be impacted and transformed by God's Word.

- Discuss and share your thoughts from the vision sermon this Sunday.
- Share about what scriptures you have been reading lately and any questions, thoughts or doubts that are on your mind.
- SO WHAT? Spend a few quiet moments asking God to speak to you about any changes in thought, attitude or action that you need to make.
- NEXT STEPS: Any change or transformation requires some form of action from you and encouragement from others. Share your "next step" with the group and allow them to check in on you.

SERVING: (approx. 20 min.)

Each Life Group gathering we want to remind ourselves that it's not all about us and our group, but that we are part of a bigger "us" and a bigger picture.

This week:

Spend extra time praying for our church:

- The hearts of our congregation - that we would become more passionate followers of Jesus.
- Our Life Groups - new people that need to be connected, new leaders for our various ministries (children, youth, adult, outreach, missions, etc), for God's will to be accomplished and unity of spirit in regards to the building project.

SENDING OUT: (approx. 20 min.)

After each Life Group gathering you are headed back into the world to impact those around you for Christ.

This week: Share any personal prayer requests and pray for each other.

"Benediction": have everyone stand, and in unison, read this prayer over each other: Phil. 1:9-11



Pressing On



Questions for discussion with *Life Groups*, family, friends, or for personal reflection.

1. **Sunday Review:** Reflecting on this week's message from the Word (as a group you can discuss these points and try to answer any remaining questions):
 - a) What challenged you the most?
 - b) Was there anything that surprised you, or that you had never heard before?
 - c) Was there anything that you still do not understand?
2. How does Jesus compare the gifts of the rich vs. the poor in Mark 12:41-44? Who put in the most?
3. How does the widow demonstrate the principle of proportional giving? How large are your gifts to God in proportion to your income? How large are your gifts in proportion to how much you have left after the bills are paid?
4. How does the widow demonstrate the principle of sacrificial giving? What did that mean for her? What would sacrificial giving mean for you?
5. How does the widow demonstrate the principle of faith-filled giving? Is this the same kind of faith you and I exhibit in our giving? Why or why not?
6. How can you be a better steward of the relationships God has blessed you with? A better steward of the gospel?
7. How has God been challenging you to grow in generosity lately?
8. Read and discuss these "**Battling the 'More Monster'**" guidelines:
The "**More Monster**" is that constant presence in our lives shouting at us that we deserve more "stuff." In truth, we receive more when we turn away from the "**More Monster**" of materialism. Consider:
 - More freedom when we step away from the MORE Monster — Acts 20:33
 - More satisfaction when we step away from the MORE Monster—Eccl 5:10
 - More significance when we step away from the MORE Monster—Luke 12:15
 - More security when we step away from the MORE Monster—Prov. 23:5
 - Seeking "more" brings expense (Eccl 5:11), worry (Eccl 5:12), pain (1 Tim 6:10)



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