

Life Group Resources

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

CONNECTING: (approx. 15 min.)

Each Life Group gathering we want to create intentional space to get to know one another better. This week: Share 3 blessings of this past week

TUNING IN: (approx. 15 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:

Recognize that God is the giver of good things and thank him specifically for His blessings in your life; pray sentence prayers of thanksgiving: ("Thank you Lord for.....") praying as often as you like. *Designate someone to close, thanking God for his active presence in your midst and inviting Him to shape your time together.*

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 some time in prayer for friends or family that don't know Christ (be as specific as you can without breaking confidence).
- Look for ways that you can show God's love to them this week.

LEARNING: (approx. 40 min.)

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

- Discuss question 1, sharing your thoughts from the passage or from the Sunday sermon.
- You may want to select only 3 or 4 other questions to discuss.
- Listen: 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 action from you and encouragement from others. Share your "next step" with the group and allow them to check in on you.

SENDING OUT: (approx. 15 min.)

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

- Minister to one another by going around the circle and have everyone share one personal request for prayer. Pray for the person on your right.

Tip#1: If someone is very uncomfortable with praying out loud they may pray silently for the person.

Tip#2: You may feel led to lay hands on the person as you bless them through prayer. Let the Holy Spirit guide you.

Pressing On: Hope

REGIFTING
CHRISTMAS

November 27th, 2011



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. What evidence of "hopelessness" do you see in our world? In our community? In our Church? In your family?
3. Share a time when you felt hopeless and describe what helped you move into a place of hope.
4. Can you explain why hope is a theme at Christmas? Practise explaining that to each other as if you are explaining to someone who does not know Jesus. (1 Peter 3:15) Reference as many scriptures as you can.
5. Describe the hope you have in your life.
6. Read Hebrews 6:19. What does it mean that hope is an anchor for our soul, and how does hope provide that?
7. Read 2 Corinthians 9 together. Discuss what the implications of this are for us today. List as many "applications" from these verses for our lives as you can.
8. Consider how you, as a Life Group or family, can help bring hope to someone around the world in great need. What gifts could you forego this year to help provide for someone else's need?
9. Discuss ways that you, as a group or family, can serve in our community to help bring hope. What will you commit to?
10. Talk about, and pray for, some people you know who seem to be hopeless. Discuss ways you might be able to help them find hope (spiritual and/or physical) and decide what you will do about it.



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