

# Life Group Resources

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

## **CONNECTING:** (approx. 10 min.)

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

This week:

- What is a time during the week that you can relax and experience peace?

## **TUNING IN:** (approx. 20 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:

Spend time in Psalm 23: read it through and linger there – what thoughts and feelings does it evoke? Try expressing those thoughts in short sentence prayers.

- (optional) Talk about it/ “debrief”: how did this go for the group? (It’s ok to feel awkward when trying new things)

## **SERVING:** (approx. 15 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:

- How can you use this Christmas season and the topics of “Hope, Peace, Love and Joy” as a springboard for conversations and reaching out to your friends, neighbours and co-workers?

## **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.
- 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.

## **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:

- Break into gender groups and share about any struggles or hardships that you are currently enduring. Pray for each other!

Tip: make sure you leave enough time for unrushed prayer.

# Pressing On: Peace

REGIFTING  
CHRISTMAS

December 4th, 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. Peace starts with our reconciliation to God. Is there anything in your life where it is hard to accept God’s forgiveness? Why? What happens if we can’t accept God’s forgiveness of us?
3. What do you need to do to experience God’s forgiveness and reconciliation?
4. What do you find hardest to forgive in other people? Do you need to receive something from others before you can forgive them? (Luke 17:4) Can you forgive someone without them asking for it? What happens if you can’t?
5. Is there a limit to what you should do to make peace with others? (read Romans 12:18 in several different translations.) If there is a limit, what is it? (support your answer from Scripture.)
6. Read Matthew 6:14,15. What does this mean for Christians? Is our salvation in doubt because of this? Why not? (support your answer from Scripture).
7. Pastor Terry suggested that some of character of the peace Jesus brings is: quiet conscience, restful mind, surrendered will, hopeful heart, and loving fellowship. Which of these is hardest for you? Which is easiest?
8. Read Romans 5:1; 8:33-39. How does a “quiet conscience” bring peace?
9. Where do you struggle most with re-gifting peace? Family? Church? Community? World? What steps can (will) you take today to make progress in that area?
10. Share about 1 person you struggle to be at peace with, then pray together about your relationship with that person.
11. Pray for peace in our world. List as many places in turmoil as you can and pray for them. (Go to [www.operationworld.org](http://www.operationworld.org) for information on those countries to help you pray wisely.)



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