

# LifeGroup Time Guide

This LifeGroup Guide is intended to help our LifeGroups establish consistent practices of (1) reflecting on and sharing our spiritual lives, (2) praying & working together as Christ's witnesses, (3) discussing and applying God's Word to our lives, and (4) actively fighting against sin together. We believe that being consistent with these practices will help us grow and mature as disciples.

## 1. God Sightings & Spiritual Practices: (30 Minutes)

**Purpose:** This section is designed to help us **reflect** on our past week through a Godward lense and **share** with the group how our week has been from that Godward perspective.

**Note:** *This is not a time to simply share how your day or week has gone. Rather, it is a time to update each other on either how you have been seeking Jesus and/or what Jesus has been doing in your life.*

To help you think of what you can share, if its helpful, you can simply choose to answer one of these questions:

- What has my prayer life looked like during the last week?
- Have I meditated on God's Word by reading the bible, doing a personal devotional, listening to sermons, or in any other way?
- How have I seen God answer prayer in the last week?
- How have I seen God at work in me and around me in the last week?

## 2. Review the Mission: (10-20 Minutes)

**Colossians 4:3** *At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ,*

**Purpose:** This section is designed to help us **pray** and **plan** for God to work through us

and our church as we join Him in His mission.

We are witnesses of Christ's goodness and love. We review the mission each week so we can collectively join Jesus in His mission as we follow Him together.

### **PRAY**

Use this time to share and pray about people in your life that you want to see come to know Jesus. Pray for at least 3 people.

### **PLAN**

**Discuss as a LifeGroup whether or not you can do one of the following:**

- Serving high school or college students at an upcoming Young Life: Downtown Columbia Event. Potential Dates to serve include: November 12th or 17th
  - The November 12th Welcome Back Parade was originally announced from the stage on Oct. 29th. If you would like to see more information and sign up, please use this [link](#).
  - If you can't make it to the parade, but would like more information regarding other ways you can serve high school or college students during the month of November contact the Young Life: Downtown Columbia Area Director Cortnie Francis at [cortniems@gmail.com](mailto:cortniems@gmail.com)
- Planning something fun/enjoyable to do together that you want to invite people to. If this is an option you want to pursue as a lifegroup, take time right now and name people you want to invite (people you want to come to know Jesus, people who don't have gospel centered community, etc.).

## **3. Bible Study & Sermon Discussion: (20-40 Minutes)**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this section is help LifeGroup Members grow as followers of Jesus by weekly (1) **utilizing a bible study method** that LifeGroup members can utilize in their own time and (2) **discussing the application** of the preached Word of God.

Pray that God would open your hearts and eyes to His truth and that He would make this time fruitful, encouraging, and transformative.

**Read the text:**

**John 1:14** *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

**2 Corinthians 5:20** *We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.*

**Matthew 5:10-12** *10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

## Bible Study

**Note:** *We ask the same three questions each week during Bible Study time to help our LifeGroups discuss God's Word and to help you have a method of studying the bible that you can practice in your daily life as you read and meditate on God's Word.*

**Spend some time silently reflecting and journaling** the following questions as a LifeGroup:

1. What stands out from the passage?
2. What does this passage reveal to us about God?
3. What does this passage reveal to us about people?

Share with one another what you thought, reflected, and wrote about.

**Sermon Discussion:**

**Note:** *These questions are intended to help us consider and apply the preached word of God to our lives. We value this discussion time because when we share with others what God is showing us, it helps us encourage each other through God's Word.*

1. What was said in the sermon that was beneficial for you?
2. What makes it difficult for you to be full of grace and truth when talking to someone about an issue where they disagree with the truth of the bible?

3. How does Jesus' love for us inform and empower us to be able to respond with grace and truth to others.

### Submit Your Questions

Are there any questions that come to mind on this topic? If you have a question, text "Two Notch" along with your question to 855-855-0655. In the final week of this series, we'll choose a few of the texts we've received to discuss and answer.

## 4. Engage the Heart: (20-40 Minutes)

**Purpose:** This section is designed to help us grow as followers of Jesus through the biblical practices of (1) confessing sin, (2) Encouraging one another in the truth of God's Word, and (3) praying for each other.

**Hebrews 3:12-13** *Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. 13 But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.*

**Proverbs 28:13** *One who conceals his wrongdoings will not prosper, but one who confesses and abandons them will find compassion.*

Use this time to:

1. Confess sin in your life and victories over temptation that you've experienced
2. Encourage, exhort, and admonish each other with the Word of God
3. Pray for each other

If you are having difficulty thinking of what you can confess, consider the questions below:

- Where have you been yielding to sin in your life?
- What are you struggling to trust God with this week? How can you give God control of it?
- Has the Holy Spirit been prompting you to do anything that you've been resisting?
- What steps do you need to take to obey God?

Use this [link](#) to access a resource you can use to find scriptures for encouraging each other in various areas of sin and unbelief in your lives. There is also a video provided to help you use this resource.