

# 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 it's 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 link to find prayer prompts related to the Young Life: Downtown Columbia Ministry (an Outreach Ministry that our church partners with through financial support and prayer) and the students across Columbia that have been impacted by ministry efforts. As highlighted at the end of service on Sunday, the Young Life: Downtown Columbia ministry has been a focal point of connection between our church and young people in our community. Let's continue to walk alongside our ministry partner by praying over the prompts found at this [link](#).

## **PLAN**

Are there any rhythms we can plan that can help us share the love of Christ with someone we've prayed for during Review The Mission?

- Planning a Lifegroup time or Rhythm activity that focuses on intentionally discipling kids
- Helping Young Life: Downtown Columbia staff and volunteers facilitate an event (for more information email Executive Minister Dom Francis [dfrancis@midtowncolumbia.com](mailto:dfrancis@midtowncolumbia.com) and cc the Young Life: Downtown Columbia Area Director Cortnie Francis [cortniems@gmail.com](mailto:cortniems@gmail.com))
  - Examples of events include: The Young Life Golf Tournament Fundraiser, assembling volunteer care packages, or hosting a volunteer team meal (each team is roughly 5 to 8 individuals)
  - If you want to stay in the know regarding how the Lord is working in our local high schools and community, request to be added to the Young Life Downtown Columbia Newsletter (email Dom and cc. Cortnie)

### 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:**

[Proverbs 16:1-3, James 1:5, Proverbs 11:14](#)

#### Bible Study

**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

1. What was said in the sermon that was beneficial for you?
2. Take turns sharing with the group an area of your life that you would like to practice more wisdom in. After someone shares, as a group, give wise counsel to them to help ensure that they're committing their work to the Lord.
3. **(If there is time)** In the sermon, we said God offers us three ways to commit our work to the LORD and make wise decisions: committing ourselves to God's Word,

prayer, and His people.

- Which of those three do you tend to overlook? Why is that?

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

**Purpose:** The purpose of this section is 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.*

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

Questions to consider:

- 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.