

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

Option 1 (1x/mo): Use the link below to find prayer requests for our neighbors in the Colony Apartments that our Prayer Walk team has met and prayed for. Please pray for 3 or more of the neighbors you see on the prayer list, [here](#).

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?

- Helping Young Life: Downtown Columbia staff and volunteers facilitate an event (for more information email Executive Minister Dom Francis dfrancis@midtowncolumbia.com and cc the Young Life: Downtown Columbia Area Director Cortnie Francis cortniems@gmail.com)
 - Examples of ways you can assist include: 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)
- Going on a prayer walk as a lifegroup. If you are interested in prayer walking as a lifegroup, please email Executive Minister Dom Francis at dfrancis@midtowncolumbia.com

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 16:5 *Everyone who is arrogant in heart is an abomination to the Lord; be assured, he will not go unpunished.*

Proverbs 11:2 *When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with the humble is wisdom.*

Proverbs 29:23 *One's pride will bring him low, but he who is lowly in spirit will obtain honor.*

Proverbs 16:18 *Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.*

Proverbs 6:16-17 *There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him: 17 haughty eyes...*

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. In what ways have you noticed yourself having haughty eyes or a haughty spirit?

3. How does the saving work of Jesus Christ help us to practice humility?

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.