

LifeGroup Time Virtual Guide

We suggest using Google Hangout Meets or Google Hangout to meet. We'd also suggest working with your group to find a good time once kids are in bed to host LifeGroup time, with about an hour as the maximum time to meet.

1. Catch Up On Life:

This is when we update each other on the things that Jesus has been up to in our lives since we last saw each other. As a church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)

Suggested Time: 10 - 20 minutes

- How are you doing? Do you have any practical needs?
- What can you thank God for this week? Where have you seen God at work? What has The Lord been teaching you in the past week?

Pray: Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives, and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

2. Giving:

Jesus tells us where our treasures go, our hearts will follow. Whereas discontentment is counting what you don't have, generosity reverse-engineers our hearts to count what we do have as we help provide needs for one another (Matthew 6:21).

Suggested time: 5 minutes

As a group we want to be reminded of 3 ways to be generous at this time:

- Utilize recurring online giving for regular tithe ([Two Notch](#))
- Meet the practical needs of those in our group

- Check this [website](#) for ways to help others during this time of crisis

3. Bible Study & Sermon Discussion:

We are dependent upon the Holy Spirit to use the Word of God to transform us. Pray that He would open our eyes to the truth of His Word and that God would change us as we study this text together.

Suggested Time: 20 - 30 minutes

Pray: Thank God for the revelation and comfort of His Word through the Holy Spirit. Pray that He makes this time fruitful, with His Word taking root in our hearts.

Bible Study

Read the text:

Matthew 5:1-12

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

- What stands out from the passage?
- What does this passage reveal to us about God?
- What does this passage reveal to us about people?
- Share with one another what you thought, reflected, and wrote about.

Sermon Discussion

1. What parts of the sermon benefited you or stood out to you?
2. In what ways do you notice yourself placing hope in things of this world to give you joy?

3. Why is Jesus' perspective on joy superior to this world's perspective?

4. Engage the Heart:

Jesus calls us to walk in the light, confessing our sins to God and each other. God's Spirit works through confession and community to lead us to repentance. (Romans 3:23-24, James 5:16 and 1 John 1:5-10)

Suggested Time: For the prayer below, we suggest 5-10 minutes.

Pray: Close your time together by praying for the following:

- Pray for the Spirit to work in you as you take steps of repentance
- Pray for God to meet the needs of those in your group
- Pray for the sick and vulnerable

Keeping In Touch: Keep in touch with each other through smaller groups this week. Be sure to check in with each other by phone call, Google Hangouts or FaceTime, text messages, and GroupMe. Be intentional to ask Godward questions like the following when you catch up:

- 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?