

Life Group Guide – Exodus Weeks 7-12

Thank you so much for your ongoing commitment to leading an Everyday Church Life Group. In a growing church it is impossible for anyone to know everyone, but it is essential that everyone knows, and is known by someone. That is why what you do in building community is so important and is so valued.

As I said in my introduction to the last Life Group Guide, it is likely that there would have been much more interaction around first century preaching. There would have been more participation through Q&A and discussion. Although at times we might try and replicate this on a Sunday, it is hard to do that well in a larger crowd. However, we can, and do, have this opportunity within our Life Groups. It is through the weekly devotions and in our Life Groups that we will have opportunity to unpack the Sunday teaching and bring both application and accountability into one another's lives.

To that end, rather than producing an additional and separate Life Group guide each week, I would like you to continue to use the devotional videos/written devotions to shape the Bible study and discussion in your groups each week. You can access this devotional material through the [Everyday App](#), on the [Media section](#) of the website and on our [YouTube Channel](#).

You may even find it helpful to watch the video devotions as a group as part of your Life Group meeting. I recognise that not everyone comes to the Life Group meeting having heard or watched the sermon because of serving on a Sunday or work and family commitments. Watching the short devotional video (6-9 minutes) together might be a good way of getting everyone in the same space to then discuss that week's subject.

Each week the written version of the devotion will include scripture references and discussion questions to help your group unpack and apply the sermon from that week.

This is the pattern we started as part of the Vision & Values series and the feedback I received was very positive. However, our goal in these guides has always been to equip you as a Life Group Leadership and if there are other ways of producing these guides, or if you would like us to return to the specific weekly guide, please let us know. You can email me on simon.elliott@everyday.org.uk

Exodus – Weeks 7-11 (Plus Pentecost 😊)

Preaching through the same book for 5 months can seem like a slow process, but we are discovering that it really is a whistle stop tour. We are moving quickly from event to event. This is one of the reasons we produced a verse by verse reading plan. Please feel free to keep encouraging people to pick this up and use it in their personal times with God. If someone is new to your group or the reading plan, tell them not to worry about trying to catch up – simply pick up on a particular day and take it from there 😊 You can find the [Exodus Bible Reading Plan](#) via the app or on the [website](#).

Wb 23rd April: Crossing the Sea **Exodus 13-15** – The birth of a nation, trusting God, Baptism imagery.

Wb 30th April: Gods provision in the wilderness **Exodus 16-17** – Trusting God with our needs and our stuff.

Wb 7th May: Sinai – come to the mountain **Exodus 19-20** – The covenant dynamic between relationship with God and obedience to God.

Wb 14th May: Commandments 1-3 **Exodus 20:1-7** – The importance of Worship.

Wb 21st May: Sabbath in a modern world **Exodus 20:8-11; 23:10-13; 31:12-18; 35:1-3** – The importance of rhythm and margin in our lives.

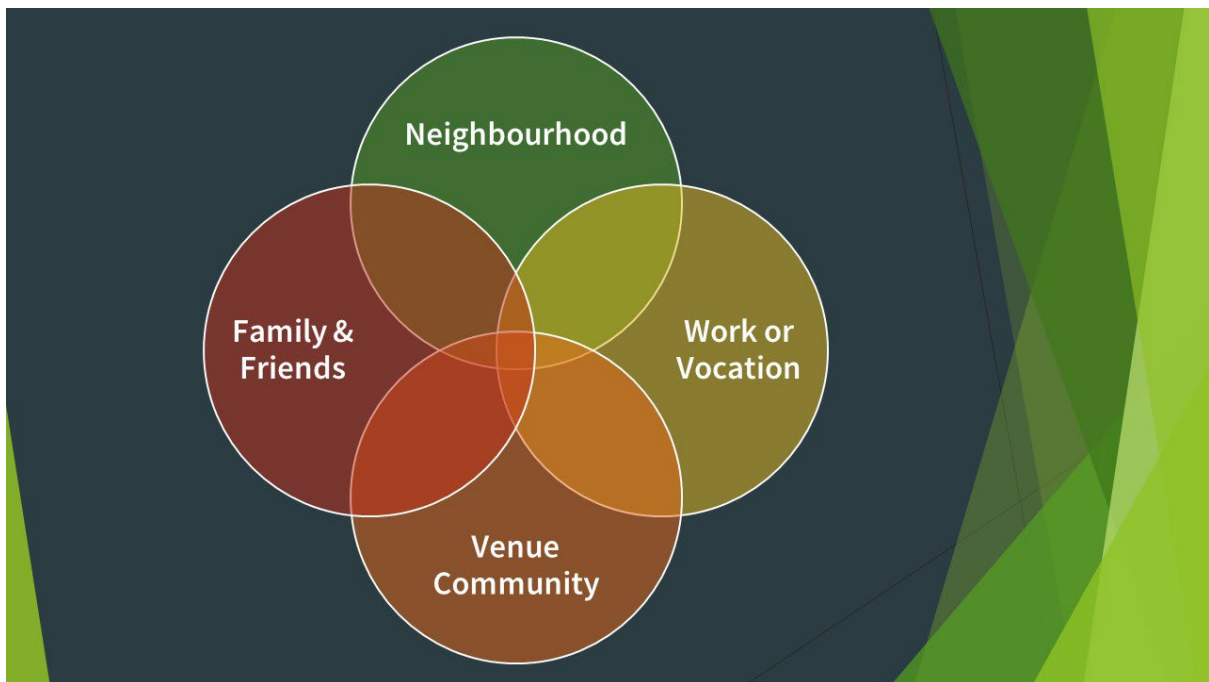
Wb 28th May: Pentecost: We will take a break from our walk-through Exodus to look afresh at Pentecost and the work of the Holy Spirit. Make time this week to talk about your experience of the Holy Spirit. Remind one another that we are set apart by the presence of God in our midst and this promise is fulfilled through the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst. Make space to pray for one another as we seek to go on being filled with the Holy Spirit (Eph 5:17).

LENT - Review

Remember that we encouraged one another to refresh our patterns of prayer during Lent. You might want to review with your group how this went? We would also love to hear anything that God might have been saying to individuals or to the wider church in this season. Please do feedback to your venue Elders and Leadership team. Alternatively, people can feedback via the feedback button on the Prayer page of our website <https://www.everyday.org.uk/prayer>

Praying for our Spheres of Influence

If you were at the ASK meeting on the 19th April, or in Wimbledon on the 16th April you will have seen the graphic below before:



It summarises the spheres that most of us operate within. In each of these spheres there are people deeply loved by God, who are not yet fully aware of that love. Part of our Kingdom calling is to take every opportunity to share our faith in these spheres. At the ASK prayer meeting I reminded us of a simple model that we can all follow.

Prayer – praying for ourselves and others to develop compassion for those around us, and a hunger in them to seek God.

Care – expressing God’s unconditional love and compassion to those in our spheres of influence through acts of kindness. Showing a real interest in people, not because they are evangelistic projects, but because God delights in them and wants us to delight in them.

Share – sharing our faith with those who ask us through answering questions with sensitivity, brevity and wisdom.

I would love to invite you to regularly make space in your Life Group meetings over the coming weeks to pray for those in your spheres of influence and share any opportunities you have had to share an aspect of your faith.