

LIFE GROUP GUIDE

WELCOME

Narrate why we meet together and go over any important announcements.

CATCH UP ON LIFE

We catch up on life because we are a family who cares about the ups and downs of one another's lives. *Choose 1 question:* What were the highs and lows of your summer? Where have you seen Jesus at work this week? How are you doing, really? Are there any significant updates in your life? Are there any big decisions to process with the group?

PAUSE

Before officially beginning group time, have someone lead the group through a pause prayer. Take a few deep breaths. Give everything and everyone to God. What do you need to let go of? Open your heart and mind to hear from Him and ask the Spirit to lead and guide everything that follows.

IMPACT

Our Father sent Jesus to earth on a mission to make an impact; in the same way, Jesus sends us out on a mission to do the same. We do this by inviting our neighbors into our lives, sharing Jesus with people, serving together, and planting new Life Groups so that more people can know Jesus. **Where do you sense God inviting you into mission with Him? What would that look like this week?**

SCRIPTURE DISCUSSION

We love the Bible. We believe God's Word strengthens, renews, and unites us. That's why we open physical Bibles together. Phones can easily distract us, but there is something meaningful about seeing God's Word with our own eyes, holding it in our hands, and experiencing it together.

Passage to discuss: *Deuteronomy 4:5-8*

Meditate on the passage for a moment. **What do you see about God?**

Apply it to life. **If this is true, what does it change for us?**

Apply it to impact. **If this is true, how does it inform our mission?**

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SERMON DISCUSSION

We continue discussing the truths from the sermon because we don't want to be hearers only, but doers of God's Word. As we discuss together, we learn from one another as a family, and the truth goes deeper into our hearts! *Have someone briefly recap the sermon (just a few minutes).* **What were the nations intended to see about God's character through Israel? Where do you see the aroma of Christ's sacrificial love in our church family?** *Take a moment to honor one another.* **How and why are our acts of self-giving love the aroma of Christ to God? What is our missionary identity, and how does that shape how we live? How do you sense God wanting to renew your mission? How can our life together as a group bear witness to God?**

ENGAGE THE HEART

Engage the Heart is a time to walk in the light of honest confession. As we directly and courageously share where our hearts and lives are not aligned with Jesus, He brings healing and freedom. He uses this time to make us more and more into His distinct people whose lives are a light in dark places. [John 15:4, 1 John 1:8-9, James 5:16, and 1 John 1:5-10]

- Cast vision for this time.
- Confess sin.
- Prayerfully listen for God to lead.
- Dig deeper by asking questions.
- Give gospel assurance to one another.
- Pray.

What acts of sacrificial love do you most often shy away from? Where does selfishness show up in your life? What lie do you believe hinders you from fully living into your missionary identity? Is there an area of your life you're not surrendering to Jesus to fully conquer? Is there anything disrupting your union with God? What is the good news of the gospel for what has been confessed?
