

LIFE GROUP GUIDE

WELCOME

Narrate why we meet together and go over any important announcements. ***Discover class starts this Sunday (9/13) in the 9:15. Register at 2rc.org/discover**

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 serving our community, inviting people into our homes, sharing the truth of Jesus, and more. **Who is one person in your life who doesn't know Jesus? What story do they seem to have made their home in?**

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: Colossians 1:16-17, 2:6-8 & 3:1-4

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 want to grow in these truths. 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 are some of the ways the world convinces us we are the main character in the story? How are you tempted to live like the main character? How do spiritual disciplines help us live in the better story? What is the true conflict in our story, and who/what are we tempted to believe is the villain? What is a smaller story you are often tempted to settle for? How is the gospel better than these smaller stories?**

ENGAGE THE HEART

Because Jesus, the hero of this story, has already overcome our greatest problem—sin—we are free to walk in the light through honest confession. When we confess our sin, we are reminded that we are part of a better story. And because we are not the main character, we don't have to pretend to be perfect. We have a God who is! That truth frees us to be honest about where we fall short and where we desperately need Jesus. [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 smaller story are you most tempted to believe (in your work/parenting/marriage/hobbies/downtime)? Who/what external “villain” are you most tempted to blame? Is there anything disrupting your union with God? What is the good news of the gospel for what has been confessed?
