



Prince of Peace Church

Sample Template for Community Groups

1. Greeting & Introductions (5 minutes)

- a. Welcome: Begin by warmly welcoming everyone, especially new members. Introduce yourself and allow new members to introduce themselves.
- b. Opening Prayer: A brief prayer asking for God's blessing on your time together.

2. Sharing Life Together (15-25 minutes)

- a. Updates & Check-ins: Allow members to share significant life events from the past week—joys, challenges, or burdens. Keep this time encouraging and judgment-free.
- b. Community Care: Discuss how the group can support one another practically (e.g., meals for someone recovering from surgery, help with childcare, etc.).

3. Scripture Study & Sermon Discussion (30-40 minutes)

- a. Read the Passage: Read aloud the passage(s) from Sunday's sermon together (choose 1-2 translations to bring clarity).
- b. Guided Discussion: Use the sermon discussion questions to reflect deeply on the text.

4. Prayer Time (10-20 minutes)

- a. Share prayer requests (personal, familial, for the church/community, etc.). Write them down for follow-up during the week.
- b. If the group is large you may break into smaller pairs or triads for deeper, personal prayer.
- c. Close with a blessing, such as, "*May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, now and evermore. Amen.*"

Additional Best Practices for Healthy Groups

- Start and End on Time: Respect everyone's schedules.
- Confidentiality: Remind members that what's shared in the group stays in the group.
- Encourage Participation: Create a space where everyone feels heard and valued.
- Rotate Roles: Share responsibilities for hosting, leading discussion, or providing snacks.



Prince of Peace Church

Ordinary Time - August 17

“God Is on the Move”

*Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:
Grant us so to **hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest** them, that by patience and the
comfort of your holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting
life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and
the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Scriptures for Reference

Hebrews 12:1-14; Psalm 82; Luke 12:49-56

Questions for Discussion

- 1) How does Ordinary Time challenge us to grow and mature in faith rather than remain static?
- 2) Reflect on the quote: “If the gospel we preach isn’t good news for the poor and powerless in our communities, then whose disciples are we?” What does this mean for us personally or as a church?
- 3) What is the difference between true peace (shalom) and the world’s version of peace? Are there areas in your life where you have settled for superficial peace at the expense of truth or justice?
- 4) God is on the move—don’t miss it! How can we become more aware of where God is working around us?
- 5) Is there something difficult or costly you sense God calling you to do? What holds you back?
- 6) Hebrews 12 teaches that God’s discipline is an act of love rather than punishment. What “peaceful fruit of righteousness” has grown in your life after a season of discomfort or challenge?
- 7) Our church is preparing to launch new ministries which will gather the lost, hurting, and vulnerable into God’s kingdom. What opportunities and challenges do you anticipate as we welcome “the least of these” (Matt. 25)?