



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

Sunday - December 7

“Finding God in the Wilderness”

*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 - Matthew 3: 1-12

Questions for Discussion

1. Why do you think we often “like the idea of change but hate the process of change”? Can you name an area of life where this rings especially true for you?
2. What stands out to you about the crowds walking into the wilderness to confess their sins? What does their willingness to be uncomfortable teach us about real repentance? How does this contrast with how we typically approach spiritual change today?
3. The Pharisees and Sadducees appeared religious but refused to repent. What does false repentance look like in our modern context—especially inside the church? How have you seen false repentance within yourself?
4. The cultural pattern of repentance says: “sin → guilt → apology → try harder.” Why does this pattern feel so natural—and why is it ultimately fruitless? How have you seen this cycle play out in your own life?
5. John says, “Bear fruit in keeping with repentance.” What do you think “fruit” actually looks like? What’s one place in your life where the Spirit may be inviting you into deeper surrender?
6. True repentance is something Jesus grows in us by His Spirit. How is this different from the way you typically think about repentance? What does it change about how you relate to your failures, weaknesses, or repeated sins?
7. Repentance grows in community, not isolation. Who are the people you can confess to, pray with, or walk alongside as you grow? What next step is the Spirit prompting you to take: confession, conversation, restitution, or simply asking for help?