



# 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.



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## 3rd Sunday After Epiphany - January 25, 2026

### “Abide in Me”

**Scriptures for Reference** John 15:1-17

#### **Questions for Discussion**

- 1. Change & Shelter** - Our world is changing rapidly and often feels unstable. When you face uncertainty or fear of loss, where do you instinctively seek shelter or security? How is this evidenced by how you spend your time, money, or how you find yourself daydreaming?
- 2. Jesus' Invitation** - Jesus speaks about abiding just before warning his disciples about suffering and persecution. Why do you think abiding—not strategy or strength—is his first word to anxious disciples?
- 3. Abiding in His Love (Worship)** - Looking honestly at your life, what do your daily rhythms and monthly Sundays suggest about how much you are prioritizing relationship with Jesus through prayer, Scripture, and corporate worship?
- 4. Abiding Through Obedience** - Jesus connects love with obedience. Where do you sense God inviting you to say “yes” to him—and “no” to something else—in your habits, relationships, body, money, or time?
- 5. Abiding in Friendship (Community)** - Jesus calls his disciples friends, not servants. What gets in the way of being truly known and knowing others in Christian community, and what might it look like to take one step toward deeper gospel friendship?
- 6. Change, Loss, and Hope** - Jesus embraced profound change and loss in the incarnation and the cross, trusting the Father to bring greater gain. How might God be inviting you to trust him with change in the season ahead?