



# 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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## Ordinary Time - August 3

### “Rich Toward God”

*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

**Ecclesiastes 2:1-11; Psalm 49:1-10; Luke 12:13-21**

#### Questions for Discussion

- 1) What stood out to you most from the sermon this week? How did the sermon challenge or encourage you personally?
- 2) The speaker in Ecclesiastes tries everything “under the sun” to find satisfaction. Have you ever pursued something that you thought would fulfill you, only to find it ultimately disappointing? Why do even the good things in life leave us feeling empty or restless?
- 3) Covetousness is “the restless craving to possess what we do not have, driven not by need, but by the illusion that more will finally make us whole.” Where do you see this craving showing up in your own life?
- 4) St. Augustine famously said, “Our hearts are restless until they rest in you, O Lord” (*Confessions*). Ultimate peace and purpose are not found in creation but in the Creator. How does your relationship with God change how you experience things like wealth, success, beauty, or comfort?
- 5) We become “rich toward God” by **investing in what lasts**—our relationship with God and love for others—and by **holding earthly things with open hands**. We do the first through worship, prayer, scripture, sacraments, and acts of love. We do the second through practices like simplicity, generosity, and fasting. Have you ever practiced these last three? What was that experience like? Which one could you try this week?