



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 - September 21

“Love God with Money, Not Money as 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 - Luke 16:1-15

Questions for Discussion

The parable of the dishonest manager is unusual — why do you think Jesus chose such a confusing story to teach about money?

How does the connection to the prodigal son (Luke 15) help us understand what Jesus is saying in Luke 16?

What’s the difference between being shrewd and being slimy? How does the manager’s shrewdness challenge the way we think about money?

Jesus says, “You cannot serve God and money.” In practical terms, what does it look like to serve money? What does it look like to serve God with money?

The Pharisees loved money and therefore devalued people. Where do you see this happening in our culture — or even in your own heart?

The sermon mentioned that some hide from the tithe (making excuses) and others hide behind the tithe (giving without sacrifice). Which temptation resonates most with you? Why?

How does Jesus’ ransom — paying our debt with His own life — free us from the trap of loving money more than God or people?

What might it look like for you to use your resources shrewdly to make “eternal friendships” (v. 9) through generosity, hospitality, or kingdom work?