



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

2nd Sunday in Lent - Mar 16

“Keep Your Eye on the Prize”

*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 - Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35, Psalm 27:9-17

Questions for Discussion

1. Can you think of an example where you (or someone you know) tried to earn something through effort but later realized it had to be received as a gift? How does this compare to the Christian life?
2. Read Philippians 3:4-9. What does Paul mean when he says he counts all his past achievements as "rubbish" compared to knowing Christ? What does this say about God's role in salvation?
3. Read Philippians 2:12-13. How do we “work out” our salvation while recognizing that God is the one working in us?
4. What does it look like in daily life to “press toward” Jesus in a relationship rather than striving for a reward?
5. Why do you think Paul uses such strong language about legalism (Philippians 3:2-3)? How can legalism lead people away from Christ instead of toward Him?
6. Where do you see people today (inside or outside the church) relying on their own righteousness rather than Jesus? How can we help them see the truth?
7. Read Philippians 3:10-11. Why does Paul see suffering as a way to know Jesus more deeply? How does this challenge our natural view of suffering?
8. In what areas of your life are you tempted to strive rather than receive from Jesus? How can you intentionally press into a deeper relationship with Him this week?
9. What would change in your walk with Christ if you fully embraced the idea that righteousness is received, not earned?