

GROUP LAUNCH GUIDE



LIFE GROUP EXPERIENCE



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WHAT IS GROUP LAUNCH?

A five-week experience for groups to use when they desire to reestablish the purpose and expectations of a life group while deepening relational connection and trust.

How to get the most out of this book:

This five-week experience is designed to...

- Welcome new members to an already established group
- Help a group get back on track
- Facilitate the merging of two or more established groups
- Kick off a new season after experiences of disconnection

This booklet will help you guide your group through the following experiences:



Each section for the five weeks will include a guide for group time together, room to make notes and instructions for any activities. This booklet doesn't include daily devotionals but, as "homework", participants are asked to write out their story for week two and read scripture before week three.

It's our hope that this will be a fun, encouraging, and helpful experience for you and your group. Be sure to plan ahead for each week to get the most out of your time. We're praying for you as you embark on this journey together!



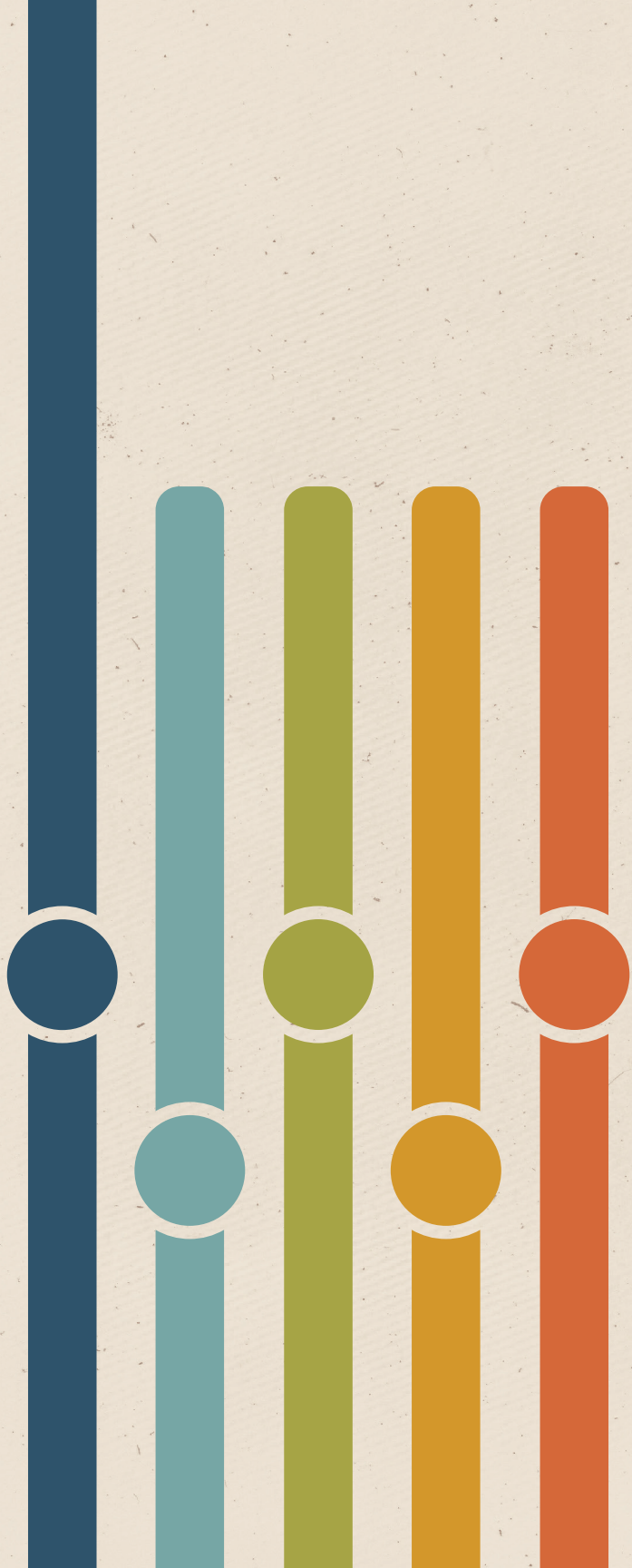
**"FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE GATHER
IN MY NAME, THERE I AM WITH THEM."**

MATTHEW 18:30

**"IRON SHARPENS IRON, SO ONE
PERSON SHARPENS ANOTHER."**

PROVERBS 27:17





WEEK ONE

AN INVITATION TO
COVENANT COMMUNITY



LEADER NOTE

Before your first meeting, deliver books to your group and encourage reading and responding to pages 8-10 OR text/email your group and invite them think about how their idea of a life group compares with what you read in Acts 2:42-47.

GROUP TIME (90 minutes)

ICEBREAKER

What is **one** thing you really like people to know about you?

OPENING PRAYER to transition to discussion.

DISCUSSION

What will our life group look like? *(led by leader)*

If you've been in a group before, what most positively impacted you from the experience?

While trying to honor those in your previous groups, would someone be willing to share what you didn't like or what was challenging about your group experience?

Read the following passage aloud:

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.”

Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”

Acts 2:42-47

What elements of Christian community do you see the early church following that you would want to make sure we emphasize as a group? Which parts scare you or make you uncomfortable?

What hopes and dreams do you have for our group? Examples: closer relationships, accountability, deeper understanding of scripture, serving...



WATCH TOGETHER

Watch this video together. You'll also find a manuscript to this video so you can follow along.



LIFE GROUPS AT THE CREEK

At this point your group has taken the time to reflect on previous group experiences and share hope for your group moving forward. This week is focused on conversations about what you expect from a life group and what is expected from you as a participant or leader. We want to take a couple minutes to share with you what we have identified as the key characteristics of a life group at The Creek.

A life group is a community of people intent on loving God, loving others, and making disciples in order to connect people to Jesus.

Life groups are more than a study, class, or book group. They are a commitment to a community of other believers and require **intentionality**, **vulnerability**, and **transparency**.

- Intentionality is the prioritization of the commitments outlined in the Life Group Covenant
- The difference between vulnerability and transparency can be described like this:
Transparency is inviting someone to look through the windows of your house. Vulnerability is inviting them inside. Transparency is knowing about you. Vulnerability is knowing you.

As a church we have a priority of community. We want to move from casual relationships to committed relationships to covenant relationships, and we want to do it for the sake of Christ. Covenant community is achieved when we go beyond casual friendship to urging one another to be with Jesus, become like Jesus and do what Jesus did.

One of the greatest benefits of being in community with one another is that we have the privilege of bearing witness to the transformation God is doing in each other's lives. In her book, *Life Together in Christ*, Ruth Haley Barton describes the nature of Christian community as "men and women

gathered around the presence of Christ for the purpose of being transformed in Christ's presence so they can discern and do the will of God."

Another characteristic of a life group includes our commitment to live our lives in a manner that reflect the mission, vision, and priorities of The Creek.

MISSION

Love God. Love others. Make Disciples.

VISION

To connect people to Jesus.

PRIORITIES

Worship, Gospel, Kingdom, Scripture, Identity, Community, Generosity

As a church, we gather to worship and hear the sermon at weekend services. On our own throughout the week, we engage in prayer, scripture reading, and daily devotions. In life group, we come together in a small group to discuss what God has revealed to us through the sermon and devotionals and how we are experiencing transformation in our own lives.

We further carry out the mission of The Creek by serving in the church, locally, and globally and by growing generous hearts and dependence on God through our stewardship of all He has given us.

At this point you are going to read through the Life Group Covenant. The reason we sign covenants as a group is to memorialize the commitments we are making to the practices and values of a life group. It's wise to review the covenant and recommit to it at least twice a year.

Read through and sign the Life Group Covenant found on page 16.

Looking ahead to next week... **Week 2: Sharing Our Stories**

- Use the provided story guide to prepare to share your story in 3-5 minutes
- Write out and practice story ahead of time

CLOSE IN PRAYER

THE CREEK

A life group is a community of disciples intent on loving God, loving others, and making disciples in order to connect people to Jesus.

We are a community: As the family of God, we meet regularly to eat, pray, and share life together. Community is the place where transformation into Jesus' likeness happens best.

We are disciples: As disciples of Jesus, we make it our aim to be with Jesus, become like Jesus, and do what Jesus did. Through practice, teaching, community, and guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are learning what it means to love God, love others, and make disciples as apprentices of Jesus.

We want to connect people to Jesus: As people with a purpose in the Kingdom of God, we seek to proclaim and manifest the good news of Jesus and do justice in our community so that our message is grounded in words and deeds. We partner with God by giving our time, talents, and resources to see the Kingdom of God come in Indianapolis as it is in heaven.

Knowing that there are seasons and times for flexibility, in order to accomplish our goal of transformation into Christlikeness we are asking every life group participant to commit to:

- Attending your life group weekly (even when it gets tough!)
- Reflecting on the devotional material to enhance group time and contributing to group discussion based on the sermons
- Practice being with Jesus, becoming like Jesus, and doing what Jesus did
- Live and champion the seven rhythms of Rooted
- Being vulnerable and authentic
- Caring for your group members
- Speak the truth in love and humbly receive loving accountability
- Pursue unity with other group members

CONFIDENTIALITY

It is our desire to promote a safe environment for sharing the most important things in life. We want to provide a place where people can reveal openly and confidently the broken areas of their lives without judgment or condemnation. We are not here to "fix" one another. We encourage openness, vulnerability and intimacy during discussion, accountability, and prayer times. In order to ensure a safe haven for personal sharing, we ask that each life group member enter into an agreement of confidentiality.

Everything in this group is confidential, but according to Indiana law², we do have a duty to report abuse or neglect of a person whether they are a child or an adult. In addition, information may be shared for the express purpose of resource recommendations, accountability, discipleship, or for legal and safety reasons.

I agree to uphold the above commitments, to show up consistently both physically and mentally, and to keep all things shared by my group members confidential at all times unless what is shared falls under the aforementioned exceptions.

SIGNED: _____ **DATE:** _____

² Indiana Code 31-33-5-1, Indiana Code 12-10-3-9(a) and 12-10-3-2(a)



WEEK TWO

SHARING OUR STORIES

GROUP TIME (90-120 minutes)



LEADER NOTE

The sharing of stories will take most of the group time. To be sure everyone gets a time to share and be prayed over, we have found this model for group interaction works well.

- **Before you start**, assign someone to pray for each person after they share their story. You can have spouses pray for each other, have people pray for the person to their left, etc. Just make sure everyone takes note of who they are praying for.
- Assign a timekeeper. This is essential for everyone to have time to share. Explain to the group that the timer will be set for **4 minutes** allowing them 1 minute to wrap up and then be prayed for.
- **Be prepared to share your story first.**



READ ALOUD

- To have enough time for everyone to share, we are going to follow a guided story sharing model.
- To help the time flow smoothly, we will start with me and then go around the circle to my left.
- We will begin each story with a few seconds of silence, inviting the storyteller to break the silence when they are ready.
- We will set a timer for 4 minutes. When the timer goes off, the person sharing will have 1 minute to wrap up their story.
- After the person finishes sharing, the group member chosen to pray for them will thank them for sharing their story and pray for them.



READ ALOUD CONTINUED

- After the prayer, we will observe a few minutes of silence and the **person to the left of the last storyteller** will share their story.
- We will follow this until everyone has had a chance to share their story.
- To begin, let's come before the Lord in prayerful silence. Let's quiet our bodies, minds, hearts, and souls from the distractions of the world to really hear the loving presence of God. We will sit in silence for a moment and then I will break the silence and share my story.

CONCLUSION

Remember that the group has agreed to maintain confidentiality.

Looking ahead to next week... **Week 3: Commitment to Accountability**

- Our group discussion next week may touch upon sensitive matters and wounds from the past that may be more comfortably shared in groups of the same sex.
- Complete the "On your Own" section before next gathering

COMMITMENT TO ACCOUNTABILITY

“Hope begins in the dark, the stubborn hope that if you just show up and try to do the right thing, the dawn will come. You wait and watch and work: you don’t give up.” - Anne Lamott

Just like your group engaged in an experience of vulnerability and authenticity in Rooted about what strongholds you might have; we want to continue sharing openly about what is going on in our lives. The practice of confession to one another invites another important aspect of covenant community – accountability.

The late John Baker, a pastor from Saddleback Church, founded Celebrate Recovery and often said, “The basic test of freedom is not in what we are free to do but rather in what we are free not to do!” There is true freedom found in confession. Confession brings sin into the light. The lies and shame of sin thrive in the darkness of secrecy. Temptations are louder and the hopelessness always feels deeper. Shame is one of the primary reasons we keep our sins secret. Speaking our confession aloud to another helps us see the weight of our sin while lessening our shame.

A familiar 12-step program adage, “you’re only as sick as your secrets” can easily point us back to scripture. James says,

“And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective”.

James 5:15-16

And John writes,

“If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us”.

1 John 1:8-10

Sin, especially unconfessed sin, robs us of living lives of joy, confidence, and integrity. But receiving God’s invitation to receive His grace and walk in freedom from sinful habits, patterns, and desires are life-altering. Confession is a gift.

Pastor John would be the first to tell you that confession alone doesn’t keep us from sinning. The program he modeled after Alcoholics Anonymous included the practice of accountability. Accountability doesn’t mean you have to share your struggle with everyone, but you should be sharing it with SOMEONE. If you don’t have a trusted individual or group to whom you can confess, start praying for God to provide someone to serve in this role. Most people find confession in a group setting is most comfortably done with members of the same gender.

Confession and accountability are not simply about others knowing your sin. They can pray specifically for you if they know the nature of your struggle AND they can bear witness to your healing. They can’t pray specifically for you if they don’t know the nature of your struggle and they can’t bear witness to your healing.

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us”.

Hebrews 12:1

In your time this week, respond prayerfully to the following questions:

Where have you wrestled with temptation this week?

ROMANS 7:14-20

¹⁵ I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. ¹⁶ And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. ¹⁸ For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature.^[c] For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. (NIV)

Where in your life do you struggle with sin like Paul describes in this passage?

Where in your life do you find yourself struggling to trust God? How does this open yourself up to sinful behavior? Example: not trusting God with finances leading to lack of generosity.

How would your life look different if these sin patterns were removed from your life?

Write a prayer a prayer of repentance and ask God to reveal a person in your life you can share this with and invite to hold you accountable.



WEEK THREE

COMMITMENT TO
ACCOUNTABILITY

GROUP TIME (90-120 minutes)

If your group has decided to break into groups of the same sex, gather in separate areas to protect privacy.

OPEN IN PRAYER



LEADER NOTE

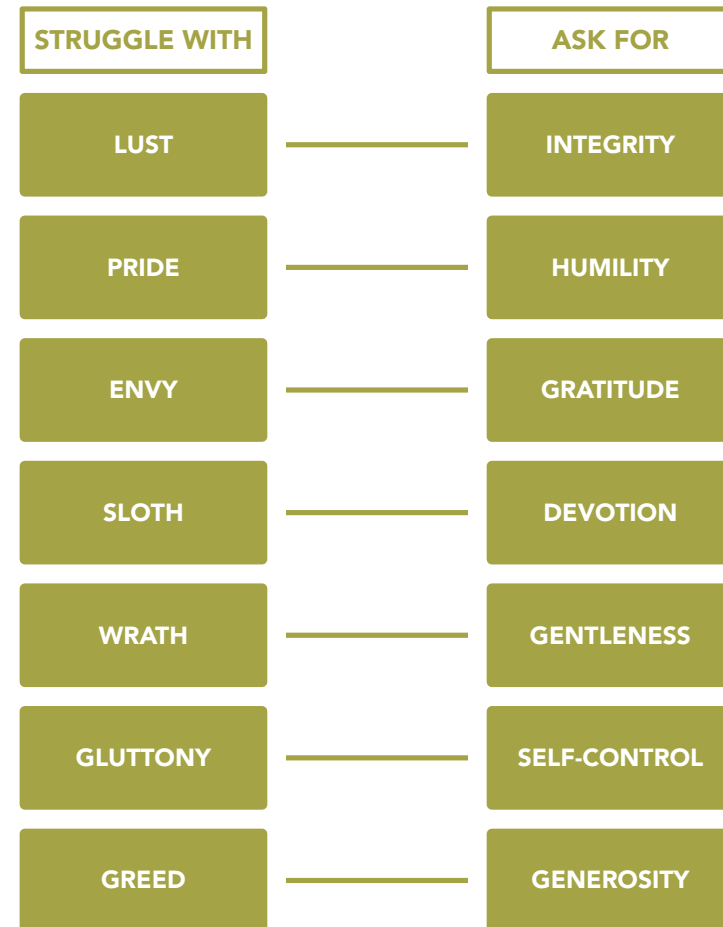
Explain to the group that the sharing model will be similar as the week before, but timers will not be used. Before you start, designate a person to pray for each group member after they share. **Group leader should share first to model vulnerability.**

- From the chart on the opposite page, identify the sin(s) you struggle with, and the correlating freedom God wants to invite you into.
- Share the sinful behaviors that have become a pattern in your life.
- Read aloud (or silently) your prayer of repentance from the previous pages.
- Once person has finished sharing, the designated group member will pray over them, asking God for the opposite of what the person is struggling with. Example: If struggling with lust, asking God for integrity.

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Looking ahead to next week... **Week 4: Prayer Experience**

- Before you come, read Luke 24:13-35
- Bring your Bible, something to write with, and a journal (optional)
- Dress comfortably





WEEK FOUR

PRAYER EXPERIENCE



LEADER NOTE

This prayer experience is designed to last two hours, but you can adjust the times to fit your group time. Be sure to silence phones and any other technology that may be a distraction during this time.

This prayer experience has five movements:

1. *Quieting your mind before the Lord*
2. *Listening to God's Word*
3. *Lingering in God's Word*
4. *Learning from God's Word*
5. *Debriefing this experience as a group*

After the opening prayer, the group will break off individually for an hour. After the time is up, the group will come back together to debrief, discuss next week, and close in prayer.

The first two movements will be experienced as a group.

QUIET YOUR MIND (10 minutes)

As a group, begin with ten minutes of silence allowing your mind to center your attention on Christ. Get comfortable. Pay attention to your breathing. Calm your mind. Release the thoughts of the day. Slow down and open yourself up to the Lord. Prepare to listen and learn from God during this time.

LISTEN (5 minutes)

Break your time of silence by reading this prayer by Thomas Merton.

MY LORD GOD, I have no idea where I am going.

I do not see the road ahead of me.

I cannot know for certain where it will end.

Nor do I really know myself,

and the fact that I think I am following your will

does not mean that I am actually doing so.

But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you.

And I hope I have that desire in all I am doing.

I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.

And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road,

though I may know nothing about it.

Therefore I will trust you always

though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.

I will not fear, for you are ever with me,

And you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

LUKE 24:13-35 FROM THE NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

¹³ Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles^[a] from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵ As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them;¹⁶ but they were kept from recognizing him.

¹⁷ He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸ One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

¹⁹ "What things?" he asked.

"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. ²⁰ The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him;²¹ but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. ²² In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning²³ but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. ²⁴ Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

²⁵ He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

²⁸ As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³² They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

³³ They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together ³⁴ and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." ³⁵ Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

LUKE 24:13-35 FROM THE ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION

¹³ That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles[a] from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. ¹⁶ But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, “What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?” And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” ¹⁹ And he said to them, “What things?” And they said to him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. ²² Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.” ²⁵ And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

²⁸ So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, ²⁹ but they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent.” So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. ³¹ And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?” ³³ And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, ³⁴ saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

LUKE 24:13-35 FROM THE MESSAGE

¹³⁻¹⁶ *That same day two of them were walking to the village Emmaus, about seven miles out of Jerusalem. They were deep in conversation, going over all these things that had happened. In the middle of their talk and questions, Jesus came up and walked along with them. But they were not able to recognize who he was.*

¹⁷⁻¹⁸ *He asked, "What's this you're discussing so intently as you walk along?"*

They just stood there, long-faced, like they had lost their best friend. Then one of them, his name was Cleopas, said, "Are you the only one in Jerusalem who hasn't heard what's happened during the last few days?"

¹⁹⁻²⁴ *He said, "What has happened?"*

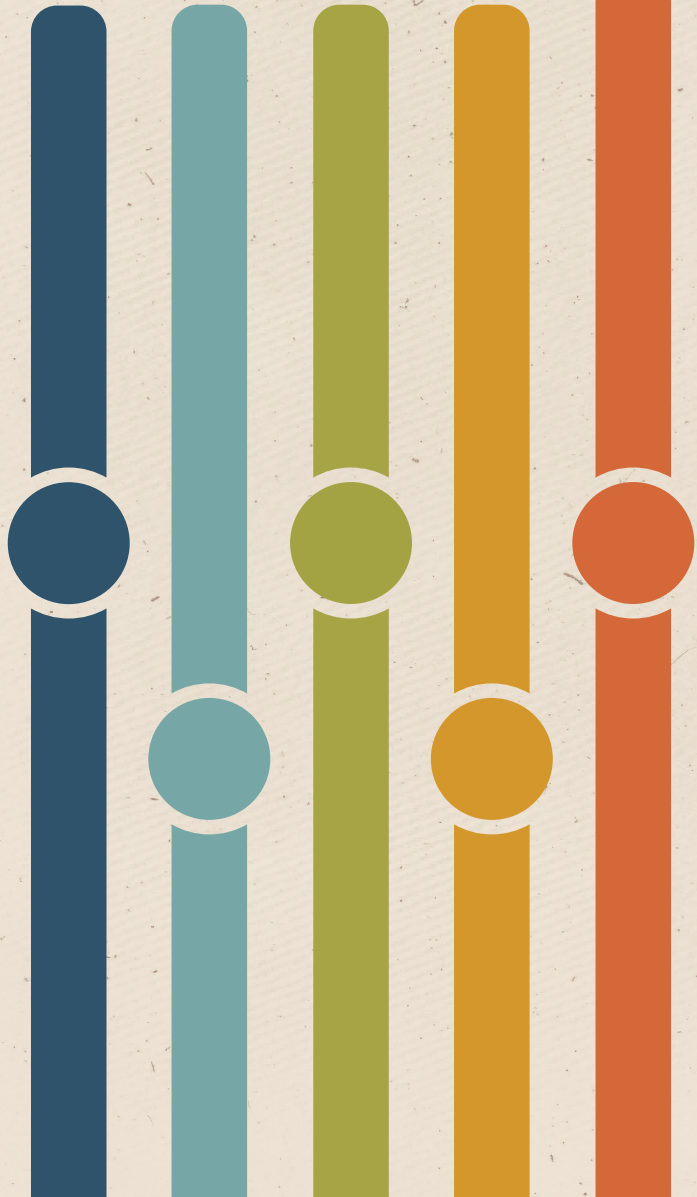
They said, "The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene. He was a man of God, a prophet, dynamic in work and word, blessed by both God and all the people. Then our high priests and leaders betrayed him, got him sentenced to death, and crucified him. And we had our hopes up that he was the One, the One about to deliver Israel. And it is now the third day since it happened. But now some of our women have completely confused us. Early this morning they were at the tomb and couldn't find his body.

They came back with the story that they had seen a vision of angels who said he was alive. Some of our friends went off to the tomb to check and found it empty just as the women said, but they didn't see Jesus."

²⁵⁻²⁷ *Then he said to them, "So thick-headed! So slow-hearted! Why can't you simply believe all that the prophets said? Don't you see that these things had to happen, that the Messiah had to suffer and only then enter into his glory?" Then he started at the beginning, with the Books of Moses, and went on through all the Prophets, pointing out everything in the Scriptures that referred to him.*

²⁸⁻³¹ *They came to the edge of the village where they were headed. He acted as if he were going on but they pressed him: "Stay and have supper with us. It's nearly evening; the day is done." So he went in with them. And here is what happened: He sat down at the table with them. Taking the bread, he blessed and broke and gave it to them. At that moment, open-eyed, wide-eyed, they recognized him. And then he disappeared.*

³² *Back and forth they talked. "Didn't we feel on fire as he conversed with us on the road, as he opened up the Scriptures for us?"*



WEEK
FIVE CELEBRATION



LEADER NOTE

This portion of a guide is to help you plan your celebration. The elements of the celebration are up to you, but we encourage you to include prayer, a meal, and communion.

This week is focused on gathering for a meal as an anchoring practice for the group. Throughout scripture, Jesus gathered with others for meals and used that time to teach, love, and care for those he sat with. As it was in Jesus' day, gathering around the table for a meal continues to be an opportunity to grow closer to one another. We have very different conversations at the table than we do in other spaces where we interact.

You can make the meal as simple or as extravagant as you like. You can potluck or cater. Just be sure everyone contributes so that this is truly a shared experience.

Some things you'll need for this gathering:

- A place to host the meal
- Plates, utensils, cups
- Food/drinks
- Wine or grape juice for communion (cups for serving)
- Bread for communion (basket or plate for serving)
- Someone to prepare a communion devotional or to lead through the prayer below

An optional flow for your celebration:

- Open with prayer
- Eat your meal
- Share communion
- Eat dessert
- Play a game
- Conclude with words of encouragement and prayer

COMMUNION

In the celebration of communion, we are reminded of Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. When we participate in communion, we are participating with Jesus while in communion with one another. Be sure to share communion regularly with your group!

Communion can be celebrated before or after or even during the meal. A great place to celebrate it is between the main meal and dessert. Whenever you plan for it, be sure to take the time to slow down, quiet yourselves, and truly reflect on power of the sacrifice of Jesus.

Take the communion elements you have prepared to represent the bread and the wine and share them with the group.

At this time, someone one can read scripture, prepare a devotional or you can read the passage below.

From the Book of Common Prayer:

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Following communion, offer a prayer of thanks for God's goodness and for His blessing on the group!

ROOTED RHYTHMS



Daily
Devotion



Prayer



Freedom from
Strongholds



Serve the
Community



Sacrificial
Generosity



Share Your
Story



Celebration

MISSION • VISION • PRIORITIES

MISSION

Love God, Love People, Make Disciples

VISION

Connecting people to Jesus

PRIORITIES

Worship, Gospel, Kingdom, Scripture, Identity, Community, Generosity

Worship • “All for the glory of God”

We seek God’s presence and honor in everything we do.

Gospel • “Jesus Christ is Lord”

We proclaim the good news of Jesus and center our lives on his teaching and example.

Kingdom • “As it is in heaven”

We desire to see the fame and deeds of God renewed in our day—in Indianapolis and around the world.

Scripture • “Inspired and alive”

We delight in God’s Word and live it out on a daily basis.

Identity • “Children of God”

We receive God’s love and embrace our adoption as sons and daughters.

Community • “Devoted to one another”

We value relationships and build our lives together as family.

Generosity • “More blessed to give”

We share our resources to enrich others and advance God’s kingdom.

When our team originally identified the need for a group experience that would help an existing group fold in new members, we quickly realized that content like this could be used in a variety of situations. When smaller groups merge together to form new groups, they need a relational restart. Sometimes groups get off track and need to be reminded of who they are and why they committed to covenant community. I've met with other groups who have been together for years yet have never taken the time to share their stories and strongholds with one another and hold each other accountable. Other groups feel they can't move past surface level conversations and long for deeper relationship.

Our hope is that this experience will serve as an invitation for your group to enter into relationships that are vulnerable and safe. Challenge one another, champion one another, and love each other well all while becoming more like Jesus.

A special thank you to Tom Harrigan and Emerson Kennedy. Collaborating with you both is a blast! And thank you to our Communications Team, for taking our vision and making it a reality.

We are so grateful to all our life group leaders. We learn from you and are encouraged by you. This content exists because of you. Thank you for your heart to connect people to Jesus!

With a grateful heart,
Clare Rice

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“A NEW COMMAND I GIVE YOU: LOVE ONE ANOTHER. AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, SO YOU MUST LOVE ONE ANOTHER. BY THIS EVERYONE WILL KNOW THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES, IF YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER.”

JOHN 13:34-35

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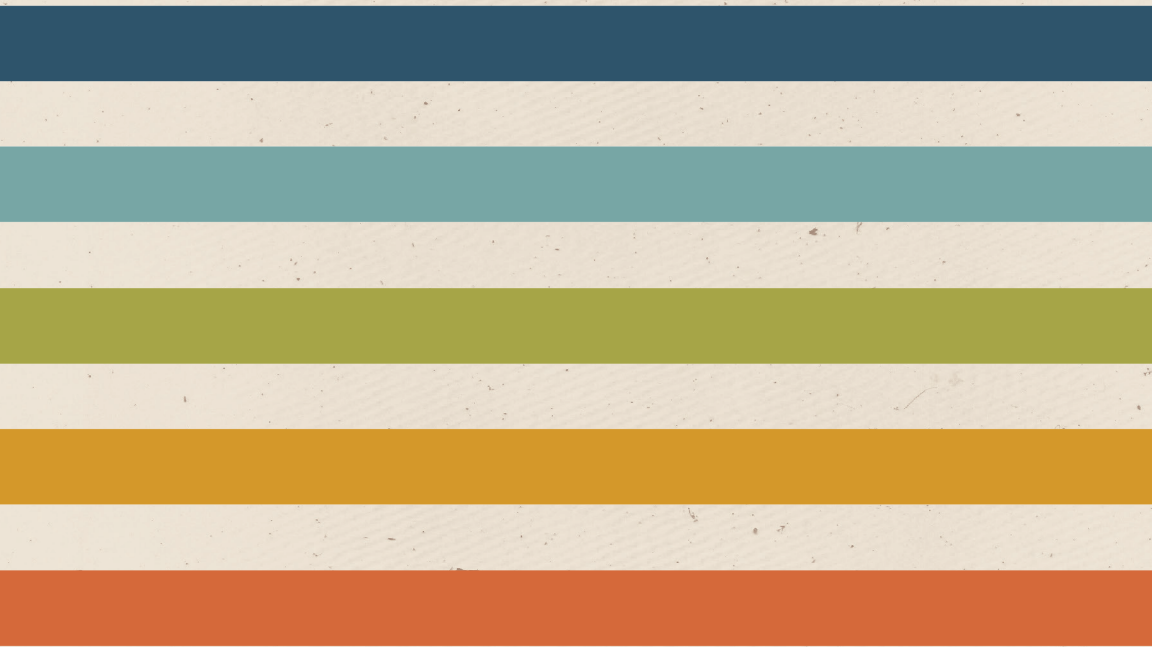
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