

# Preparing for LifeGroup

1. Prepare for each LifeGroup session by praying for:
  - A. Each group member
  - B. That God would make His Word (the Bible) clear to people in the group.
  - C. That God will help you as you lead
2. Personally prepare for the LifeGroup Discussion by:
  - A. Reading through this LifeGuide and becoming familiar with the content.
  - B. Make sure you take time to read and study the Scripture that is used in this LifeGuide.
3. Create a positive LifeGroup Environment by:
  - A. Serving Food! (Snacks or a meal – rotate who provides) - \*optional
  - B. Arranging the seating where everyone can see everyone's face
  - C. Setting the room temperature @ 69 degrees (cold keeps them awake)
  - D. Placing pets in another room
  - E. Supervising and placing children in a remote room
  - F. Keeping room bright with natural and artificial lighting
  - G. Having light/fun music playing (low to medium sound volume)
  - H. Having pens available
  - I. Keeping extra Bibles on hand
  - J. Making sure everyone knows each other
  - K. Making sure you don't go too long. (Try aiming for 20 minutes of fellowship at the beginning and 1 hour of group time.)

**Now you are ready for group time!**

# LifeGuide for *Get Real - Ghana*

## Ice Breakers

Use one or more of the following “Ice Breakers” to get them talking:

- A. *What is the craziest or hardest day of traveling that you have ever experienced?*
- B. *If you had to start your own business, what kind of business would it be?*
- C. *Would you rather someone call you, email you, or send you a text?*

### **Leader Tips:**

Remember that the purpose of the ice breakers is to get everyone involved and ready to talk. Try to make this a natural transition into your Bible study time.

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## Setting the Stage

**Leaders:** The purpose of “setting the stage” is to effectively transition from the icebreakers to a discussion of the current weekend message. This section reminds everyone in your group of the overall theme and purpose of the sermon series, and gets their minds prepared for the subject matter.

The summer is ending and fall is quickly approaching. The fall is always an exciting time for a church as people get back to their normal family schedules and new people are checking out churches. We need to be ready as a church to help people connect during this season of change and growth.

Real Life Fellowship is changing and growing, and this fall may prove to be the most important fall we have faced as a church. We have several new campuses including OKC and the Spanish Campus as well as new campuses launching in the fall like Tulsa/BA, San Antonio, and DTown CC. We are anticipating exponential growth over the next 2 years, and God deserves all the glory for what is happening at RLF.

For the next few weeks, Micah is preaching a series of sermons called “Get Real” with the purpose of reminding us why we do what we do. These messages will share the heart of RLF, and it’s our prayer that these next few weeks will unite us as a church as we prepare for the fall. You will not want to miss this series, and it’s a perfect time to invite a neighbor, co-worker, or friend.

# Discussion Time

**Leaders:** Let me take a moment to make you aware of the content found in each LifeGuide, and how you can use it. Remember this is a “guide” so you should not feel compelled to read every word and follow it in perfect order. Basically, I want this guide to provide you Scripture that you can read and study together, explanation and commentary, and discussion questions to get the group talking. The questions are bulleted so that you can locate them easily. The guide does provide you with a general flow for the evening, but you are free to adapt the guide to the needs of your group. You are always welcome to call or email me if you have any questions. Please don’t feel like you are bothering me. It’s my pleasure and my job to help you.

**Leaders,** remind your group of the one goal we are to have this new year, and really for the rest of our lives. Challenge your groups to memorize the verses below.

*So we make it our goal to please Him. (2 Corinthians 5:9a)*

*We obey his commands and do what pleases Him. And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. (1 John 3:22b-23)*

*I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength. (Philippians 4:13)*

**Leaders,** the purpose of this sermon series is to share the vision of Real Life Fellowship. This is a great time for members to be reminded of who we are, and also for new people to learn about us as a church. Work hard to get everyone in your group involved in the discussion.

- If you could go on a mission trip any where overseas, where would you want to go and why?
- Have you ever been on a mission trip to another country? How did it impact your life?
- Why do you think it’s important for our church to plan mission trips like the one to Ghana?

*"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)*

**Our Vision:** We are a multi-site church bringing real life to the world one community at a time.

- How would you describe a multi-site church to someone who is not a Christian?
- What do you like about the multi-site vision?
- What are some of the challenges of being a multi-site church?
- As we grow, what are some creative ways that we can maintain unity with all the campuses spread out over several states?

## 1. We will do whatever it takes to reach people for Christ.

*I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some. (1 Corinthians 9:22)*

- What do you think Paul meant by saying he will become “all things to all men”?
- What are some of the barriers that keep people from even going to church?
- How does Real Life attempt to break down some of those barriers?
- How do we make sure our “whatever it takes” is God-honoring?

## 2. Everyone is welcome.

*Practice hospitality. (Romans 12:13a)*

- How does a church create a welcoming environment?
- Have you ever judged someone quickly just by the way they were dressed? Why do we do this?
- How did Jesus model a welcoming attitude?

## 3. We can change the world together.

*They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he 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, 44-47)

- What are the 4 Lifesigns at Real Life Fellowship? (Attend Worship, Connect with a LifeGroup, Serve somewhere, Invest financially in the vision)
- Can you find each Lifesign in Acts 2:42-47?

## 4. Our objective is: life change.

*If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. (1 Corinthians 5:17, 21a)*

- How has Christ changed your life?
- How has God used you to help someone else experience life change?

## 5. 100 years from now all that matters is where people are with Christ.

*Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering toward slaughter. (Proverbs 24:11)*

# Wrap Up

Sum up the lesson by re-capping the main points and challenge the group to apply the truth to their life this week.

1. Ask for praise reports from previous prayer requests
2. Ask for prayer requests or to save time just pray your requests
3. Ask each person (or couple) to volunteer for part of next week's meal/snack.
4. Make any announcements
5. Close with prayer and praise

☺ Let me know if you have any questions.

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