

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 Vision Weekend

Ice Breakers

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

- A. *What do you like the most about the fall season?*
- B. *What is the craziest thing you have ever eaten?*
- C. *What is the best movie you have seen this year?*

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.

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.

God is doing an amazing work at Real Life Fellowship! 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 soon 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.

This weekend is Vision Weekend and Micah will be sharing with our vision for the next 2 years. This is also the first weekend that where all campuses are hearing the same message. Micah will be preaching live on Thursday nights on the Corpus Campus and that message will be taped so that all the campuses can hear the same message on the weekend. Micah is moving his family to Austin to start a new RLF campus from scratch. Get ready for an exciting year, because it's going to be a wild ride.

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 is to share the vision of Real Life Fellowship for the next 2 years. 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.

- How did you get connected to Real Life Fellowship?
- What excites you about Real Life?
- Why do you think it’s important to be connected to a LifeGroup?

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?

Leaders, use the rest of your time to discuss the new Get Real 24/7 Vision. Encourage everyone to share about what they think about the vision. This is a good week to just talk about the many exciting changes taking place at Real Life Fellowship.

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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