



## LifeGroup Guide

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*"When we're tired, he brings us to rest in green pastures. When we're thirsty, he guides us to the refreshing spring. When we're uncertain, he leads us on the paths of righteousness. When we're afraid, he comforts us with his presence. As you follow him, goodness and mercy will follow you all the days of your life."*

- Matt Carter

### 1. Catch Up On Life:

*This is when we update each other on the day in and day out happenings of our lives. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we're praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)*

- **Celebrate the wins** - where have you seen Jesus working in the last week (shaping you to be more like Himself or working in the lives of those that He's put around you)?
- What (if any) big life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)?

**Pray:** Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives, and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

### 2. Review the Mission:

*Just like God the Father sent Jesus on a mission of reconciliation for us, Jesus sends us out as ambassadors of His reconciliation. We are called to make disciples wherever we go. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)*

#### People:

- **Reactive** - Who in your life (family, coworkers, etc.) can we join you in praying for? Who has God put around you that is showing spiritual interest? Who is hurting and could use some love from our group?
- **Proactive** - Who are the people we are intentionally living on mission with (neighbors, STC partner organizations, or a specific demographic in Columbia)? What are our upcoming plans to love, serve and build relationships with this group?

#### Plan:

- Are there any rhythms already planned, or an extra rhythm we could plan to create a way for these friends to connect with our group?

**Pray:** Prayer is the fuel of God's mission. Let's pray for our people by name; pray for their needs, and opportunities to have spiritual conversations that help them take next steps toward Jesus.

### 3. Sermon Discussion:

*God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, to equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, to show us our sin, and to strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a LifeGroup throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25)*

**Primary Passage:** John 10:1-18

**Read and Recap:** Have someone read **John 10:1-18** and recap the highlights from this week's sermon.

- What bad shepherds are you most inclined to follow instead of Jesus?
- How have they proven to be less satisfying shepherds?

**Read John 10:7-10.** In the sermon, we said that Jesus gathers, protects, and dies for God's people.

- In what ways do you doubt that Jesus is the Good Shepherd?
- In the middle of your doubts, how has Jesus proven to be the best shepherd in your life?

*Every Group  
Around  
The Pool*

- Who in your life needs to know Jesus as their Good Shepherd? What practical steps can you take this week to share this good news with them?

**Pray** that your LifeGroup would grow in the ways you consistently point another back to the Good Shepherd in the middle of doubts.

**Pray** that Jesus, the Good Shepherd, would call your unbelieving friends by name.

### 4. Engage the Heart:

*Jesus calls us to walk in the light, confessing our sins to God and each other. God's Spirit works through confession and community to lead us to repentance. (Romans 3:23-24, James 5:16 and 1 John 1:5-10)*

- What are some unhealthy things you've done in the last week out of following a bad shepherd instead of Jesus?
- What true things about who Jesus is and who He has made you to be would help free you up in these areas? (Rest of LG speak into their lives: How does the gospel address and free him/her up?)
- What steps of repentance do you need to take? How can we help you walk in repentance?

**Pray:** James tells us that a community that regularly confesses sin and prays for each other will see a lot of healing. Confess your sins in prayer and pray for each other.