



ANTIOCH

LifeGroup Guide - Week 1

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: Acts 11:19-30

Related Passages: Acts 8:1, Acts 13:1-3

Read and Recap: Have someone read **Acts 11:19-30** and recap the highlights from this week's sermon.

- In the sermon, we learned that God often works through the efforts of ordinary people that He has placed in our lives. How have ordinary people in your life helped you see God more clearly?

Reread 13:2-3. We identified three particularly admirable qualities of the Christians in Antioch that we want to model in our church family.

1. They took responsibility for the mission.
 2. They understood providence.
 3. They took Jesus at his word when He said he'd be with them.
- How do you need to repent of shying away from ownership? What would it look like for you to take ownership and begin participating in what God is doing? (serving on a Sunday, taking the next Midtown or Grassroots class, considering Residency for after graduating college, reaching out to your LifeGroup leader or a pastor to get coffee, etc.)
 - In what ways are you letting circumstances keep you from being a part of the mission God has called us to?

- What might your reluctance to join in on what God is doing through our church family reveal about what you believe to be true about Jesus or yourself? How can the truth that God will always be with those whom He has called reframe your efforts?

*Every Group
Around the Pool*

- What is a practical next step you can take to own the mission of God where He has placed you?

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 habits you've been practicing out of any lies you are believing to be true about Jesus or who He has made you to be?
- 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.