



EPHESUS

LifeGroup Guide - Week 4

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 19:11-20 + 23-27

Related Passages: Revelation 2:4-5

Read and Recap: Have someone read **Acts 19:11-20 and 19:23-27**. Recap the highlights from this week's sermon.

- How have you seen Jesus disrupt someone's life in a beautiful way?
- How has following Jesus disrupted your "way of life"?

Read Revelation 2:4-5.

- Where has following Jesus stopped being disruptive in your life? Are there any ways that you have "lost your first love"?
- What spiritual disciplines can you practice this week to cultivate your love for Jesus?

*Every Group
Around the Pool*

- As a Lifegroup, are there areas where we've become complacent and drifted away from the mission God's called us to?

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 to escape from responsibility, fear, or pressure?
- What false beliefs about God does this reveal in yourself? What truth does the gospel share in response?? (Rest of LG speak into their lives: How does the gospel address and free him/her up?)
- Has the Holy Spirit been impressing anything on you that you've been resisting? What steps do you need to take to obey?
- Where do you need to repent and return to the love you first had?

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.