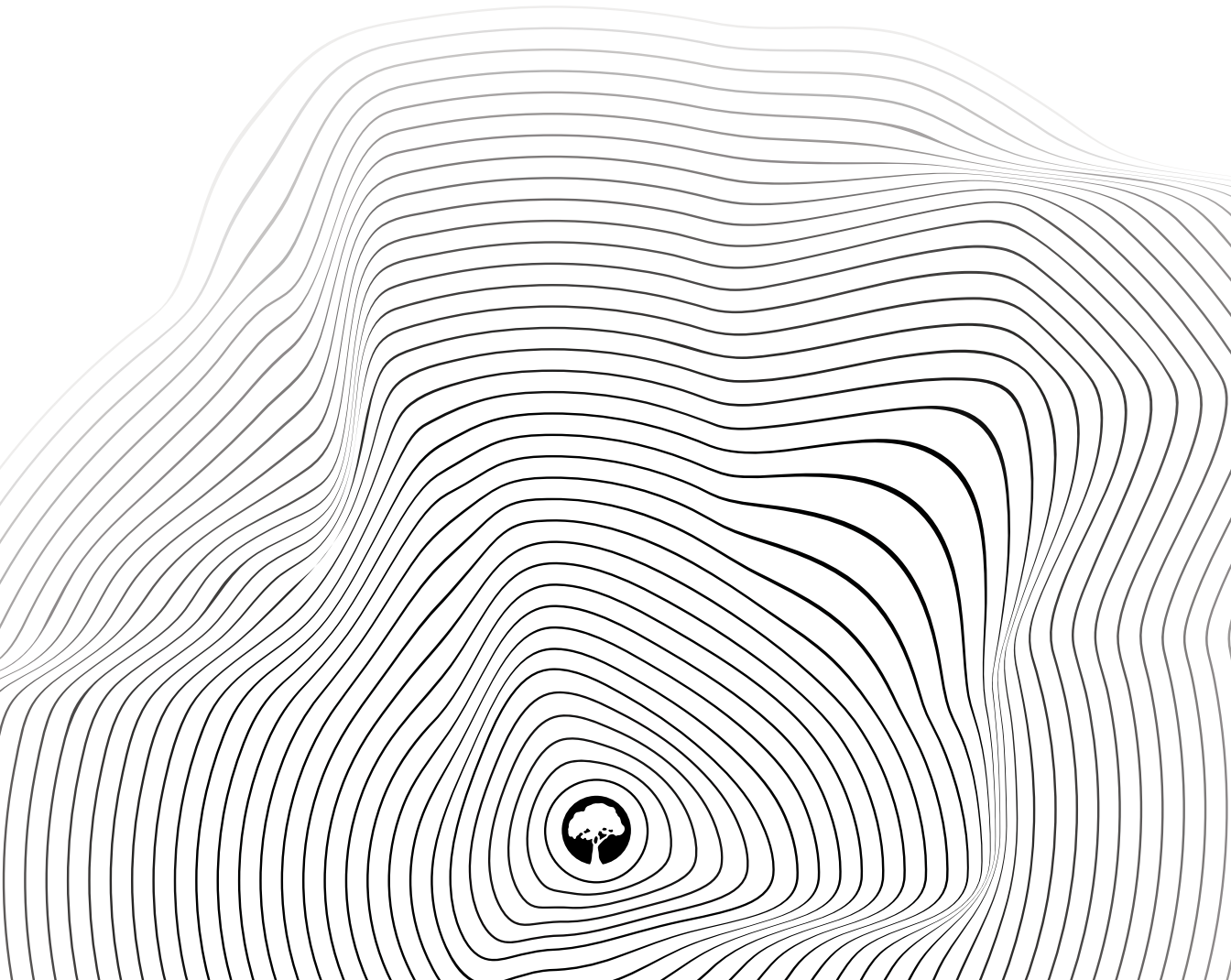


LIFE GROUP

Launch Guide



Overview

The goal of a Life Group is to pursue biblical community in order to follow Jesus and make disciples every day. To do that, we are going to focus on growing together in four roles:

SPIRIT-LED FOLLOWER

INTENTIONAL FRIEND

HUMBLE GUIDE

FORCE FOR GOOD

For the next four weeks, we will talk about these roles of a disciple and make a plan for growing in them together.

MEETING 1:

Spirit-Led Follower

GETTING STARTED

Spend 10-15 minutes getting to know one another.

READ

ACTS 2:42-47 CSB

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and signs were being performed through the apostles. ⁴⁴ Now all the believers were together and held all things in common. ⁴⁵ They sold their possessions and property and distributed the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple, and broke bread from house to house. They ate their food with joyful and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. Every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

DISCUSS

- What stands out to you most in the habits of the early church?
- How is this community similar to and different from other friend groups you have been part of?

ACTIVITY

- What was your relationship with the Bible growing up?
- What is your relationship like with the Bible currently?
- What is something you want to understand more about the Bible?
- On a scale of 1-5, how consistently do you read the Bible?
- On a scale of 1-5, how comfortable are you discussing it?



PRACTICE

Each time we gather, we'll spend time reading and discussing the Bible and how it applies to our life. We'll also spend time sharing prayer requests and practice praying for one another.

We'll spend about 45 minutes in discussion.

We'll be using material to guide us through the discussion.

Show up ready to contribute by sharing your thoughts, experiences, and questions.

PRAY

How can the group pray for you this week?

BEFORE YOU GO

Make sure you have your group means of communication set and everyone added: Group Text, GroupMe, WhatsApp etc. You can practice by having the prayer requests recorded into the group message.



MEETING 2:

Intentional Friend

GETTING STARTED

- What was the best group or team you have ever been part of?
- What makes a great group or team?

READ

ACTS 2:42–47 CSB

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DISCUSS

- What stands out to you about how the disciples did life together?
- Why do you think food played such a big part?
- Have you ever had a group of friends who helped take care of your needs? What was that like?
- What do you need from a Life Group in this season of life?

ACTIVITY

I am energized by:



In a group conversation I am:



When experiencing emotions I am:



When it comes to planning:



In this season of life I am:



A large grid of dots for taking notes, consisting of 20 columns and 20 rows.

PRACTICE

Growth happens in the context of relationships. In biblical community, the relationships formed are not simply to enjoy ourselves. They are to build one another up to pursue Jesus. As a Life Group, we want to prioritize being intentional friends. This happens when we:

- Show up consistently & give a heads up if you'll be out.
- Practice transparency & create a safe space for sharing.
- Take care of one another in life's ups and downs.
- Have fun together.
- Spend time outside of regular meetings to get to know one another.

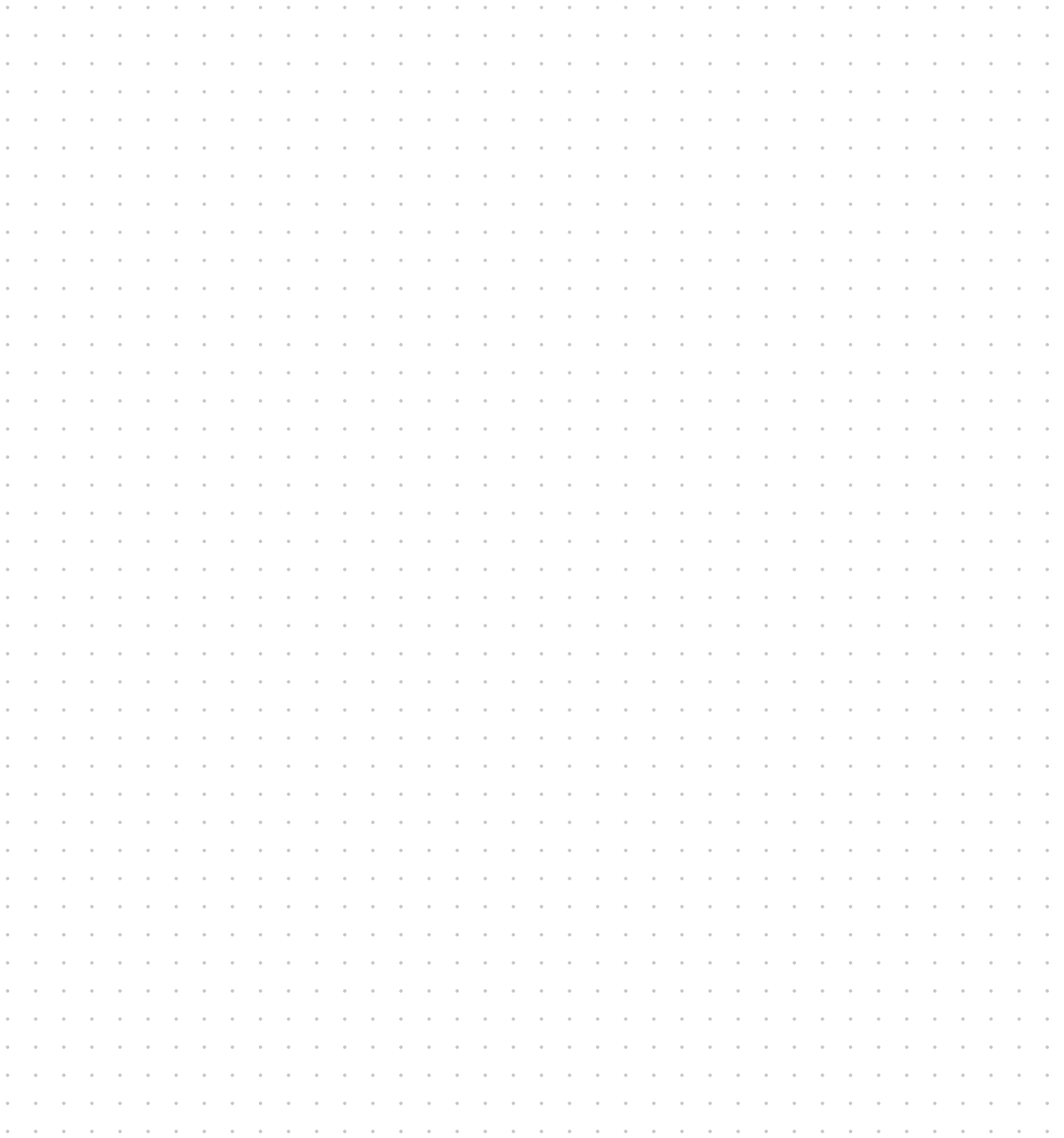
PRAY

How can the group pray for you this week?

BEFORE YOU GO

In the next meeting, we will share our faith stories. Check out the following guide to prepare to share your story:

- Describe your family of origin.
- What is your faith background?
- Has there been a time when you trusted Jesus as your savior? What was that like?
- What is a spiritually significant moment in your life?



MEETING 3:

Humble Guide

GETTING STARTED

Spend a moment catching up.

READ

ACTS 2:42–47 CSB

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DISCUSS

How do you notice the early church working together to take care of one another?

ACTIVITY

In order to understand our contribution to the group and our circle of impact, we need to understand where each one of us are coming from. Let's each take around 7 minutes to share about ourselves. Here are some tips and a possible outline.

Tips for sharing:

- To make sure everyone gets a chance to share, set a goal (or timer) for seven minutes.
- It may take more than one meeting for everyone to share, so plan to continue sharing at the beginning of the next meeting if needed.

Suggested outline:

- Describe your family of origin.
- What is your faith background?
- Has there been a time when you trusted Jesus as your savior? What was that like?
- What is a spiritually significant moment in your life?

PRAY

How can the group pray for you this week?

BEFORE YOU GO

If there are still some people who need to share, be sure to give them time in the beginning of next week's session.



MEETING 4:

Force for Good

GETTING STARTED

Who has had a positive impact on your life besides a family member? What did they do?

READ

ACTS 2:42–47 CSB

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DISCUSS

- What kind of “good” would you say the early church accomplished?
- How do you think they attained the “favor of all the people”? (v.47)
- How do you think they welcomed all of the new people the Lord was adding into their community?
- What kind of organization do you think was necessary for a small group of believers to do this?

ACTIVITY

Following Jesus is not a solo sport. It is meant to be done in community with others. As our Life Group matures and becomes a place where we can invite others in, we each have a part to play. Here is a list of ways that you can facilitate the experience of our group. Select which ones you are interested in and discuss the following questions as a group:

- Host group meetings in my home
- Help facilitate a discussion
- Co-lead the Life Group
- Take the lead on group communication
- Take attendance every meeting
- Coordinate meals or snacks for group meetings
- Plan a social for our group
- Plan a service project for our group
- Other:

Are there any you are willing to commit to?

Are there any that may be challenging for you?

PRACTICE

The better we care for one another, the better we welcome people into our group. As you think about inviting people from where you live, work, and play, here are some things to consider as a Life Group:

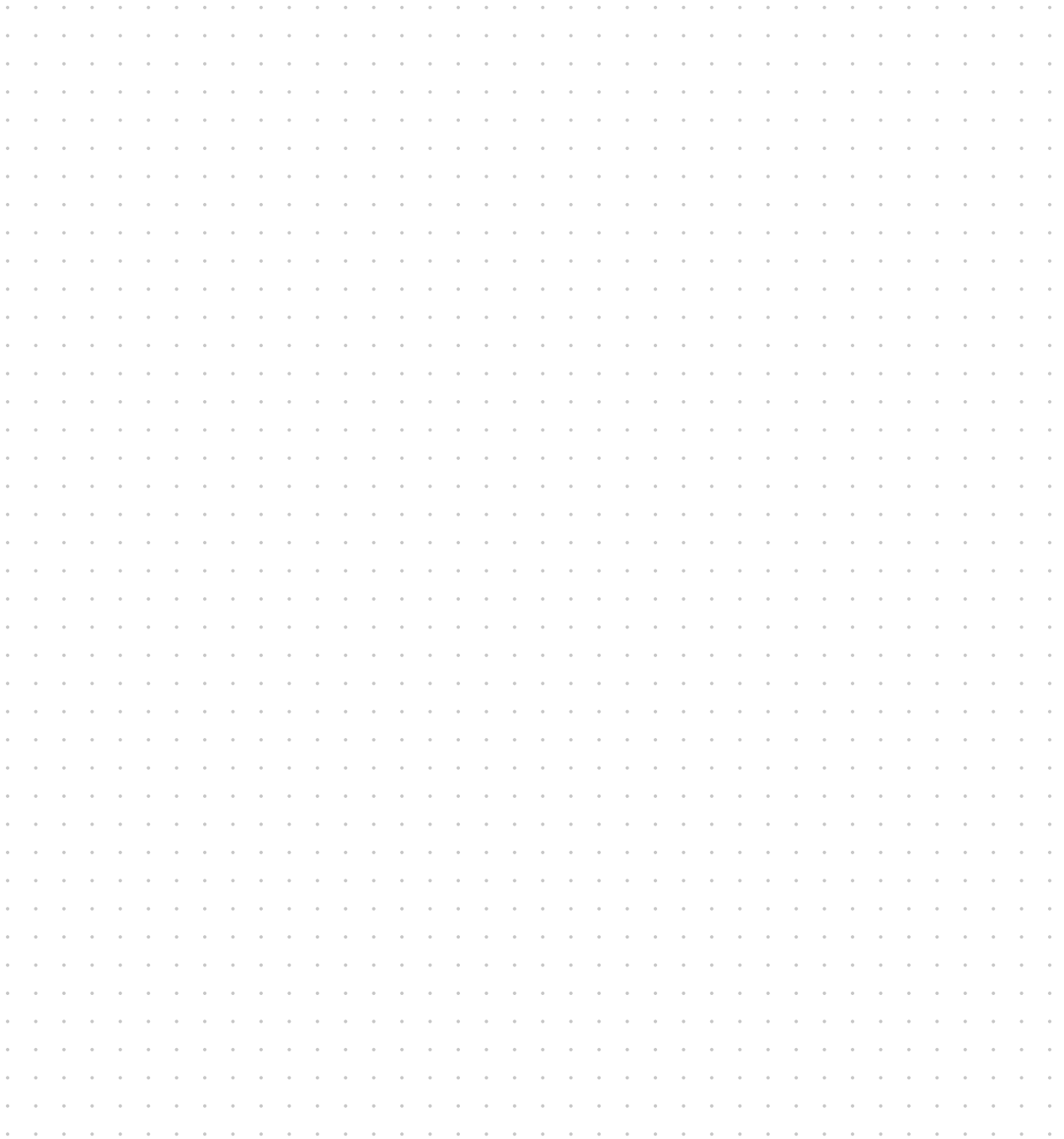
- How will we welcome new people into our Life Group?
- Can we commit to giving a heads up in our Life Group communication about guests?
- Is there anyone in your life who would benefit from being part of our Life Group?

PRAY

How can the group pray for you this week?

BEFORE YOU GO

This is the last session of the Launch Guide. If you have any questions about your group, be sure to discuss them with your leader!





LONG HOLLOW
CHURCH