

LifeGroups

What is a LifeGroup? A LifeGroup is a group of people (12-16) who gather regularly (2-4x per month) with the goal and intent to walk through life with one another. To practice Community by confession, correction, and celebration.

- Confession: A critical part of the Christian life. We often hear this word and only think negatively, but practicing confession is more than just sin! It is a time to not only confess sin, but also worries, fears, stress. As well as sin such as lust, anger, laziness, selfishness, etc... James 5:13-18, Colossians 3:5-10, Galatians 6:2
- Correction: As we practice confession, our desire is to be more like Christ. No longer in the sin we confess but resisting those things that cause us to stumble through life. It is not to be rude to one another, but in love encourage one another. Romans 12:9-13, Colossians 1:9-13, Colossians 3:12-15
- Celebration: We followers of Christ should be joyful! Celebrating one another and what God is doing in our lives and those around us. Food, fun, music, and laughter! Let the joy flow within the life of believers as we celebrate the overcoming of sin, the blessings of the Lord, the peace shown to us in darkness! Colossians 3:16-17, Hebrews 10:23-25, Acts 2:42-47, Luke 15:3-10, Luke 15:23-24.

Why is LifeGroup important? Did you know that 1 in 3 Americans feel alone. As we continue to see the rise of loneliness, anxiety, and depression, what is our response? The leading reason by the American Psychological Association is that 62% of adults don't talk about their stress because they do not want to burden others. Yet scripture tells us we are to bear one another's burdens! This is a time to not only to study the scriptures, but to practice them.

What is the difference between weekly LifeGroups and Sunday Morning Connection Groups? Sunday morning connection groups are a bit more structured This is due to time and group focus on the study of the Bible. LifeGroups are a bit freer flowing, in a home setting, shared with food and laughter. There is study of the Word, focused on the practice of the Biblical community (the 3 C's above). Both have the same end goal and are working together, not against one another.

When and where are LifeGroup's? LifeGroups meet weekly or twice a month. Ideally in a home for a more comfortable atmosphere.

How do I get involved a LifeGroup? Contact Jared Scott at jscott@lakechurchdfw.org. Group leaders or members can invite people to join their group also! Just let Jared know who is new. We love to meet new people!

How are LifeGroup's made up? LifeGroups are made up by life stage (married or single), by age, and/or some are multi generation or a mix of singles and married. We ask that you keep Jared Scott updated on your group members.

Do I have to be a member of Lake Church to attend LifeGroup? No, but if you are a part of another local body of the church (Fielder, Central, FBCA, etc..) please go where the LORD has placed you. If are not invested in a local church, we would love for you to be a part of Lake Church!

What is the expectations of those in a LifeGroup? Here are a few things we expect from those within a LifeGroup;

1. Be involved: Jesus had 12 close apostles and 3 very close apostles. Studies show that you can have 150 meaningful contacts, 50 friends, 15 good friends, and 5 very close friends. This is an attempt to help give our church the ability to have these close relationships. So please come as ready and willing to engage as possible.
2. Be respectful: This is a time where we not only study, but share joys, sorrows, pains, and hurts. Please be wise by not discussing sensitive knowledge outside of the trusted group. We understand mistakes may happen but if it's a constant concern we may ask you to take a step back and go through a process of redemption.
3. Be consistent: Life is busy, but gathering with other followers of Jesus should be one of the priorities in our life. We do NOT expect you to be at LifeGroup 100% of the time, but you should be there more often than not. This is not school, we don't take attendance for a grade, but please communicate with your leaders and your group.

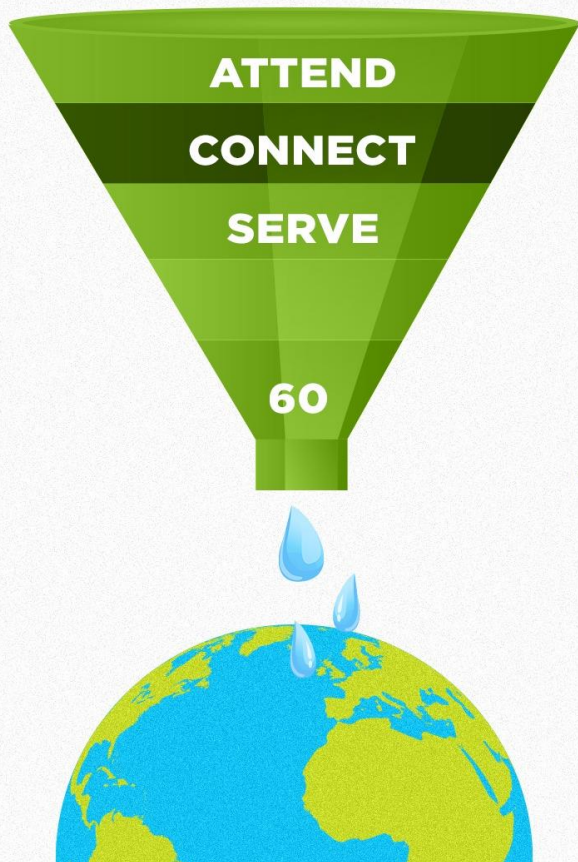
LifeGroup Leader Expectations

1. Be a follower of Jesus Christ shown by the evidence of fruit in your life.
2. Be an active member here at Lake Church.
3. Attend 80-90% of LifeGroups.
4. Be involved, do not just sit on the sidelines. Participate in discussions and other activities.
5. Invest in the lives of those in your group outside of LifeGroup gathering time. This could be a text, phone call, coffee, a meal. You as a leader are shepherding those in your group!
6. When teaching, be prepared.
7. If you expect them to do it, lead by example.
8. Look for leaders within your group.
9. Have outlets for others to pour into you. A connection group on Sunday morning is great outlet.

LifeGroup Gathering

1. Bi-weekly or weekly, preferably in someone's home. Show hospitality by welcoming your guests, serving food and beverages, and engaging in conversation. The goal is to show love and hospitality.
2. It does not have to be structured by life stage or age, but some will naturally.
3. Have a gathering time scheduled for 1.5-2 hours. There will be times that you may go longer or shorter and that is okay, but please be respectful of time.
4. The focus of Lifegroups is in the 3 C's of community (Confession, Correction, And Celebration). Prayer and the study of the word is a pivotal part of this time and through different studies we may be working in tandem with the Sunday Morning Connection Groups.

MODERN-DAY DISCIPLESHIP



JESUS' DISCIPLESHIP STRATEGY

