

# LIFE GROUPS

**LEADER PAGE | Ascent | WEEK 15 of 15 | Sermon date:** November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022

## **Note from the Life Groups Team** *(communicating effectively)*

A sincere “thank you” is in order. So, THANK YOU. It’s been quite the season for Life Group. We as a team, want to acknowledge your commitment and sacrifice to Life Group. You as a leader, have poured out much, sacrificing your time, effort, energy, and resources so that others can have a relational environment to grow spiritually. It is a grind that can leave you feeling unseen but take heart, you are seen! You are loved. You are appreciated. YOU ARE NOT ALONE. All the struggles, challenges and curve balls from the enemy have not overcome you. You are fighting a WORTHY BATTLE and it is our sincere privilege and call, to serve alongside you and support you in every way possible. Thank you for leading strong in 2022. Rest well during the break because there’s more ground God wants to take in the 2023 season!

## **Before Group** *(do the heart work)*

Spend a considerable amount of time before group reflecting on what God has done in your Life Group this season. Over the last 10 months how has He shown his faithfulness? Remember, the goal for Life group is spiritual growth. Be thinking through how you’ve grown and how you’ve seen others grow as well.

## **During Group** *(facilitate effectively)*

Group will look completely different this week. The curriculum is not directly tied to the sermon this week. Instead, being that this is the last week of Life Group for the 2022 season, we spend our time this week reflecting on just what God has done in our group this season. Our **HEAD** question asks us to read multiple passages about God’s design for biblical community and for us to explore just that. The **HEART** question(s) have us diving into just how this group has helped us grow and to affirm those in this biblical community. The hope is to share personal stories of our group experience. This is also a great opportunity for you as a leader to affirm the growth you’ve seen in others publicly. Lastly, our **HANDS** question, ends with defining a disciple, discussing how that’s happening and to consider if God is calling you up into leading your own group next season. Talk to your Life Group pastor directly if you have anyone who is feeling called so that a pathway can be established.

## **After Group** *(leading intentionally)*

Rest well and continue to find ways to stay connected relationally over the break!

## **Announcements?** *(share with your group)*

All members should have received an email from the Life Groups team to inform them of the holiday break as well as the 2023 season kickoff date when group resumes. If your members did not receive it make sure to relay the info now.

## **Did You Know?** *(reinforcing culture)*

At Southeast we define a disciple as; one who is following Jesus, being changed by Jesus, and on mission with Jesus. It’s a biblical definition that we take directly from Mt. 4:19, “Come *follow me, and I will make you fishers of men...*”

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**FACILITATOR PAGE |** *(Reproducible Process/Overall Alignment)*

**Welcome | Opening Prayer | Highs & Lows** *(5 mins.)*

**Weekly Vision Checklist** *(Intentional Leader - 5 mins.)*

- *Announcements (see bottom of Leader Page)*
- *Our Why (Jesus commands us to make disciples. Mt. 28:18-19)*
- *Our Goal (spiritual growth in becoming disciple makers)*
- *Our How (is Life Groups, cast a vision around importance of branching)*
- *Guidelines (setting the rails for healthy discussion)*
  - *Confidentiality (what's said here stays here)*
  - *Avoid Crosstalk (no side conversations while others are sharing)*
  - *Avoid Fixing & Rescuing (fight the urge to jump in and save)*
  - *Use I Statements (avoid using general terms, speak personally)*
  - *Contribute Over Consume (everyone is encouraged to participate)*
  - *Be Mindful of Self (allow all to share and use humor responsibly)*

**Hook Question** *(a related thought-provoking question- 5 mins.)*

Coming into this group, what were your expectations? Share where you were at in your walk with Jesus (spiritually and emotionally) the very first time you walked in and what reservations did you have at that time?

**Discussion Questions** *(going beyond the surface- 55 mins.)*

- **HEAD** – Read the following passages out loud. Heb. 10:24-25, Acts 2:42-47, Acts 5:42, Gal. 6:1-2 and finally Ps. 133 again. What do these passages have in common and what might God be communicating to us about the importance of biblical community?
- **HEART** – How have you grown this season as a direct result of being a part of this group? What (or who) specifically could you credit that towards and why? (Follow-Up Questions: (Share something about your group experience that you did not anticipate? How exactly are you different today than when you first walked in?))
- **HANDS** – How do we define a disciple here at Southeast (see Leader page if necessary)? How will we ensure that we are personally being discipled and making disciples from here? Who might the Lord be prompting to step into group leadership next season?

**Prayer Prompts** *(Scripture-fed, Spirit-led, Worship-based prayer prompts – 10 mins.)*

Consider the passage we read earlier and the discussion we just had.

Lord your heart for connection, relationship and biblical community tells me \_\_\_\_\_ is true of your character.

By placing me in this group Lord, you have shown me \_\_\_\_\_.

God because of how you've used this group I will be bolder when \_\_\_\_\_.

Father I've grown here this season, I praise you with all I have and I'm now ready to \_\_\_\_\_.