

LEADER PAGE |SERIES| Traditions | WEEK 3 of 6 | Sermon date: April 25, 2021

Discipleship Phrase: Tradition honors the past, action honors the present, God sees both. **Big Idea for Series:** This is why we do what we do each week.

Leading (facilitate your group effectively)

This week will look different than our typical group gatherings however, it should prove to be equally relational and certainly impactful when executed well. Before diving into the particulars let's agree fundamentally that prayer is powerful. In fact, we can look to God's word and see several accounts which prove that whenever there is a move of God or prior to anything significant occurring, it is always preceded by prayer. For that very reason, we will take opportunities throughout the year to be intentional about prioritizing prayer. One way that Life Groups will do so is by introducing *Guided Prayer* during group time. We could potentially be doing so once a quarter.

What exactly is Guided Prayer?

It's a time where your Life Group meets, on your group night, to pray for specific needs which will be prompted by the curriculum and led by you, as the leader. These nights will not have our standard curriculum with sermon implications & discussion questions as the priority will be prayer.

How do I lead through guided prayer? Set the stage well by sharing the importance & power of prayer with the group. Explain how this evening will look different from your "regular" group time. Let them know that you'll open in prayer and that you'll then lead them in some guided prompts of things (see facilitator page) to lift up to the Lord. Simply read each prompt allowing about 60 seconds or so of silence for them to pray to themselves for the topic. If you're group would like to pray out loud for the prompts, that works as well, completely up to you. After praying over all the prompts, leave space at the end for a time of open prayer where your group members can lift up anything that is on their heart.

*Guided Prayer can potentially seem awkward at first however, trust the process and be mindful that if it seems clunky and strange to you, it will feel that way to others as well. Be confident and lead well through prayer time.

Shepherding (know, feed, lead, and protect the sheep)

You've heard before, *"every group deserves a great leader."* One of the best ways to shepherd well is by taking advantage of all resources available to you. Receive these investments into your leadership: Curriculum, Podcalls, The Life Group Leader Podcasts, Workshops and finally a real relationship with your group pastor.

• Listen now to the Life Group Leader Podcast! On Spotify here, and on Apple Podcasts here!

<u>Church Announcements</u> (be in the know & share with your group)

Guided prayer this week will be great however, you can still go deeper and grow in your prayer life by attending the next Prayer Workshop led by our Prayer Pastor, Marcella Shadle! Click <u>here</u> for more details and encourage your entire group attend!

REMEMBER: "Every group deserves a great leader."



SERIES | Traditions | TOPIC: Communion | WEEK 3 of 6 | Sermon date: April 25, 20201

Welcome/Introductions (creating a relational environment starts here; be friendly & acknowledge everyone)

Open in Prayer (kickoff every group gathering with honoring the Lord)

Weekly Vision Checklist (See Flipbook re: announcements, the "why", goal, outreach, guidelines, & branching)

Introduce Guided Prayer (define and relay the expectations for the night)

Pray Together (pray for each prompt, allow silence following each period, see Leader page for more detail)

- Begin by giving thanks to God for whatever your heart prompts you to.
- Pray that God be glorified above all else.
- Pray for the Church (globally) to be united.
- Pray for healing and wholeness for all in need.
- Pray that here at Southeast the presence of God would become greater and greater.
- Pray for our pastor.
- Pray for our staff.
- Pray for our congregation.
- Pray for our Family Ministries, from babies to high school.
- Pray for our Adult Ministries.
- Pray for the Worship team.
- Pray for our Missions team.
- Pray for our community.
- Pray for the families that have been here.
- Pray for the new families God is bringing.
- Pray for Life Groups (LG) as a whole.
- Pray for spiritual growth. Pray for more relationship.
- Pray for alignment. Pray for LG Leaders. Pray for LG members.
- Pray for the next wave of LG leaders.
- Pray for the LG team.
- Take this time to allow open prayer so that others can share what is on their hearts.

Prayer Requests (record, share, and follow up throughout the week. Use the LEAD App or CCB if possible.)

Wrap up (spend the remaining time sharing what is means praying together & encourage all to attend the *Prayer Workshop*)

Closing Prayer (ask openly for a volunteer, encourage your people to step outside of their comfort zone regularly)