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Life Group

Leader Guide

RISE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

1578 Dayton Rd. NE

Newark, OH 43055

www.risechristian.church

**Acts 2:42-47**

They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

**Life Group Definition:**

Life Groups are connected groups of people pursuing spiritual growth together for the purpose of making disciples.

**Life Group Vision:**

To see every person connected into a Life Group to contribute to spiritual growth for the purpose of making disciples.

**Spiritual Growth Components within Life Groups:**

Fellowship, Bible Reading, Discussion, Prayer, Accountability, Care, Serving Others, Disciple Making

**What is a Life Group leader?**

A Life Group Leader builds community in a group of people through the leading of fellowship, Bible reading, discussion, prayer, accountability, care, and serving others for the purpose of making disciples.

**What are the qualifications of a Life Group leader?**

To become a Life Group Leader you must be a member of Rise Christian Church and attend regularly, uphold Biblical principles, model a growing commitment to God, and have a desire to help others grow in their faith.

**What is expected of a Life Group leader?**

A Life Group leader is asked to attend one training in August and two Life Group leader huddles for encouragement each year. Other expectations include consistent communication with the Connections Director and your group members, weekly attendance to your Life Group, and facilitating the weekly group meeting.

\*See Life Group Leader Agreement

**When do Life Groups meet throughout the year?**

Life Groups meet from September through the beginning of May with a winter break in December and a week for spring break following the Licking Valley Schools calendar. Summer connection events are also available.

\*See Year at a Glance and Summer Events

**How do I get people to be in my Group?**

There are two different ways people can join your group; by being invited (by you, one of your group members or by the Connections Director), or by requesting to join a group through an online submission.

**What curriculum do I use?**

Life Groups questions are provided each week to all leaders and members which are based on the Sunday sermon. If a group would like to choose a topical study from time to time, studies can be recommended by the Connections Director. If you have a particular study you would like to use, please let the Connections Director know before the curriculum is started.

\*See Life Group Discussion Guide Sample

**How much time is needed weekly to lead a Group?**

The time needed varies from week to week, but around 2-3 hours would be a good estimate. Preparing for Life Group consists of communicating details for weekly meetings and reviewing the Life Group questions provided each week. Each Life Group meeting usually lasts 1 ½ hours. Providing and/or arranging care when needed and checking in with members through text or email is another aspect of Life Group leading that takes some time each week.

**What about kids?**

Some groups provide childcare, and some do not. If you know that your group will have families with children, a plan for childcare will need to be made. There are certain days/times that childcare is provided at the church. You can make your own plan or contact the Connections Director for assistance and/or more information.

**What support do I have as a Life Group leader?**

All Life Group leaders are assigned a Rise Christian Church elder to provide care and support. The Connection Director will also provide support and training when needed throughout the Life Group year.

\*See Life Group Coaching Form

**When and where do I meet?**

You can decide a day and time that is most convenient for you and your group to meet. Please contact the Connections Director for available times and spaces if your group would like to meet at the church.

Your group can meet anywhere that is most comfortable for you and your group members. If your group would like to meet at a coffee shop or more public place, at the church, or in a home, there are advantages to each place and any place can work well!

**What are the components of a Life Group meeting?**

A Life Group meeting typically has some common elements. Here is a sample schedule:

* Gathering/Welcoming Conversations (5 min.)
* Announcements/ Opening Questions (10 min.)
* Weekly Bible Reading Sharing (10 min.)
* Sermon/Scripture Discussions (25 min.)
* Application/On Mission Planning (10 min.)
* Prayer (5 min.)
* Ending Conversations (5 min.)

**Is a Life Group leader a Bible teacher?**

No, Life Groups leaders are facilitators of discussion around the Sunday sermon, Bible principles, and life application of the Bible. Life Groups are participant driven through discussion, not lecture oriented. Group members are intended to learn from and be accountable to each other, not just the leader. **A great Life Group leader is a great listener, friend,**

**encourager, accountability partner, and vision caster of making disciples…not necessarily a Bible scholar. ☺**

**How can I get connected and stay informed with information about the church and its ministries?**

Please use these QR Codes to access the following information. Also, please contact the Connections Director at any time for additional questions or information.

Sara Harley

[sara@risechristian.church](mailto:sara@risechristian.church)

304-767-5463

Church Website Connections Card

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Serving Opportunities Life Group Questions

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