

**Vision, mission, purpose:**

To help each generation find real life through a relationship with Jesus and each other.

1 Thessalonians 2:13 | 1 John 5:13-15; 20 | Mark 4:20

**Why is it better together?**

Acts 2:42-47.

**1. The blessing of together.**

1 John 3:1 | John 13:34-35 | Romans 12:4-5

**2. The responsibility of together.**

Romans 12:10-16 | Galatians 6:2 | Romans 15:7

**3. The healing power of together.**

Ephesians 2:12-13 | James 5:13-14

**Life Groups purpose**

Hebrews 10:24-25 | Romans 8:29 | John 15:9-13

- **Sharing.**
- **Study.**
- **Support.**

**Life Group Study**

For week of September 22, 2019

*Welcome to our fall session of Life Groups! In this first meeting, take a little extra time to get to know each other. Many of our Life Groups use this insert as a discussion guide throughout the week. We encourage you to take that next step in your journey with Jesus and His church by joining one today! [www.seekreallife.com/groups](http://www.seekreallife.com/groups)*

**Share your story**

If you could pick one word or phrase to describe last summer, what would it be? Why?

As we get together this fall, is there an area God desires you to grow in? If so, what? If not, then make it a matter of prayer until He reveals it to you.

**Connect to God's story**

*Throughout this series, Jeff has been using this passage in Acts as foundational to understanding who we are and what we're becoming as we follow Jesus.*

**Read Acts 2:42-47.** As you read, list below what the believers did:

What do we do at Real Life that is similar to this first community of believers? In this list, what is best accomplished in a Life Group setting?

In considering this passage, how do you think God desires to stretch you this fall?

*One characteristic of a healthy community (church) is how we interact with each other. A top priority in community is harmony and unity.*

**Read Ephesians 4:2-3.**

In what ways does this passage help guide our group toward fruitful discussion?

Why do you think it's important that Paul calls us to unity and NOT uniformity?

**Read Colossians 3:12-15.**

Write down what insight you discover and what we can do to develop and protect unity in our community:

As you conclude your time together, **read Ephesians 3:14-21** as a prayer together. Praise God that he is at work and desires to do infinitely more than we might ask or think!

*Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.*

*Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever!*

*Amen.*

*- Ephesians 3:20-21 (NLT)*

## **THE PURPOSE OF LIFE GROUPS**

*Life Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful relationships with Jesus and each other through the study of God's Word (Romans 8:29 & Hebrews 10:24-25).*

Here's how we accomplish this in our community throughout the week:

### **SHARE**

Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include planned "sharing questions." But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as we feel more comfortable.

### **STUDY**

Each week we'll study a section from God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life by following Jesus.

### **SUPPORT**

Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (John 15:9-13). This care can take many forms such as prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another and meeting real needs.

### **SERVE**

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the community in which we live (Ephesians 4:11-16).

Throughout the quarter, it is our hope that you can find and/or be affirmed in the ways God has designed you to serve and make a difference in God's kingdom!