

ADVENTURE CHURCH

LIFE GROUP LEADER TRAINING

PURPOSE

Long before fancy buildings, sermons, services, and holy days, Life Groups were the foundation of Christianity. The early church was made of small groups gathering in homes to talk about life and faith and to spur each other to grow in spiritual maturity.

At Adventure Church, we do life together and it's our goal for everyone to get connected in a Life Group and take the next step in their spiritual journey.

What does it mean to get connected?

To whom are we connecting?

What's an example of someone's "next step" in their spiritual journey?

LEAD

We recognize and appreciate the weight of being a Life Group Leader at Adventure Church. We hold our leaders to a high level of accountability and responsibility. We want to come alongside you and help in your development as a follower of Christ and as a leader within Adventure Church.

At Adventure Church, We Will:

- Empower you to walk in the skills, talents, and interests that God has placed inside of you. *Ephesians 4:11-13*
 - Challenge you to grow in your leadership through the various channels.
 - Equip you with the resources that you need to lead your life group, and provide a structure for those resources to be used to the utmost ability.
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To ensure the health of our Life Groups, there are expectations of a Life Group Leader at Adventure Church.

LEADER EXPECTATIONS

- Have a personal and growing relationship with God.
- Have accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior, and have taken one step forward in your generosity journey with Adventure Church through tithes and offerings.
- Complete all required Leadership training and orientation.
- Connect with Life Group Coordinator two times per term.
- Faithfully attend Adventure Church worship gatherings.
- Be willing to follow and support the vision, mission, and leadership of Adventure Church.
- Make leading a priority in your life.
- Maintain honesty and integrity.
- If married, have spouse's support for your role as a Life Group Leader
- Empower others within your group by never leading alone.

"Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification." Romans 14:19

"Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ." Philippians 1:27

"Give and it will be given." Luke 6:38

"As we sow generously we will reap generously." 2 Corinthians 9:6

"...Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "And see if I will not throw open the floodgates of Heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it." Malachi 3:10

CORE COMPONENTS

We understand that each Life Group will be unique and have its individual DNA. However, there is a framework for Life Groups that we know to be successful and fosters an atmosphere for increased connectedness, and helps group members take the next step in their spiritual journey.

These are our 4 core components to a successful Life Group:

1. Fellowship

- Biblical hospitality creates a welcoming environment. Every person has a place with us. We uphold a boldness of inclusion because we know there is room for a vast collage of people who thirst for Jesus. *Revelation 22:17*
- Our Life Groups build circles of people who love each other like family because we believe in the transformative potential of relationships and discipleship. *Hebrews 10:25*
- ***What does fellowship look like?***

2. Worship

- Worship is our acknowledgment of God's power, majesty, authority, wisdom, and worthiness.
- It is a matter of the heart expressed from a surrendered life, it is the adoration we give our gracious Father and sets the atmosphere for our Life Groups.
- ***What does worship look like?***

3. Facilitation

- Focusing on the application of what God is teaching leads to life change. An open discussion is necessary and everyone should have the opportunity to share what God is revealing to them through His Word.
- ***What is the difference between facilitation and teaching?***
- ***How do you ensure all members actively participate in open discussion?***

4. P_____

- As believers in Christ, we have the distinct privilege of tapping into the unlimited resources of our Heavenly Father at any time. Therefore, as a leader, prayer should always be a primary focus for your Life Group. *Deuteronomy 4:7*
- The most valuable preparation for your group is done through prayer.
- Not just at the beginning/end of your time together but should always be used as a ministry.
- Some ways to pray in your group:
 - One for all
 - Break into smaller groups
 - Moment of silence
 - Right or Left
 - "Popcorn Prayer"
 - Pray from the Bible
 - Take requests before/pray after

LIFE GROUP STRUCTURE

Our model is designed or structured in a way that fosters and encourages connectivity and consistency through specific approaches to our Life Groups.

Why are there NO Closed Groups?

How many terms do we have during a year?

Why do we have term breaks?

What does a Life Group Launch look like?

AC LIFE GROUP TERM EXAMPLE



CURRICULUM

Study selection options:

- Right Now Media
- Sermon Summaries with Discussion Questions
- Kidventure Curriculum: “Orange” Curriculum
- One-off — Vetted through Life Group Coordinator

Life Group Options:

- Family Groups
- Men’s Groups
- Women’s Groups
- Interest Groups

INVEST

INTENTIONALITY

Make it a priority to get to know everyone in your group -- this is how we build community. Quality time spent cultivating relationships will maximize your ability to invest in them spiritually.

How can you be intentional in your leadership?

CONSISTENCY

How can you establish a high level of consistency within your group?

DISCIPLESHIP

Within the framework of our Life Groups, we want to create an environment that helps nurture relationships and encourages others to pursue Christ and follow His teachings.

What does discipleship mean?

Who is responsible for discipleship within the Life Group?

Who are we discipling within the framework of Life Groups?

“And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:18-20

MULTIPLICATION

At Adventure Church we make room for new people. So, as each term draws to an end, you'll need to take time to pray and consider your next steps.

How do we communicate the process of multiplication to our groups?

How does multiplication work?

FOSTER

God created you on purpose and for a purpose. He has called us to be the hands and feet of Christ and share the Gospel message within our Life Group, our community, and the world around us.

INREACH

Biblical hospitality creates a welcoming environment and this extends beyond a surface/social context. Life Groups create an extension of our own family. Family supports family.

What does bearing each other's burdens look like?

What does it NOT look like?

"Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2

"Anyone who does not provide for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever." 1 Timothy 5:8

OUTREACH

Those whose lives are marked by empathy and concern toward the needy show they have been transformed by the grace of Jesus Christ. When we serve those who are in need, we serve Jesus.

What are ways we can serve others within our community?

"This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you." John 15:12

"...I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!" Matthew 25:40

ENCOURAGE

God is a God of action. He came to earth, lived among us, and brought about salvation. Vision without action is just a dream and Life Groups without spiritual maturity and accountability are just another social function.

SPIRITUAL MATURITY

After salvation, every Christian begins the process of spiritual growth. This is an ongoing process that will never end until Heaven becomes our home.

How do we encourage spiritual maturity within our Life Groups?

ACCOUNTABILITY

Accountability is necessary. It provides a way for us to be proactive, intentional, and take responsibility for the time spent in Life Groups and our everyday lives.

How are Life Group Leaders held accountable?

How are Life Group Members held accountable?

"...Faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless." James 2:17

"When I was a child, I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child. But when I grew up, I put away childish things." 1 Corinthians 13:11

"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing." 1 Thessalonians 5:11

"Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another." Proverbs 27:17

"Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable." Hebrews 4:13

"Yes, each of us will give a personal account to God." Hebrews 14:12

