LifeGroup Study LIFEGROUP: How are We Doing? 2022-02-13 Participant Notes

OVERVIEW:

Welcome to our LifeGroup study – "LIFEGROUP: How Are We Doing?" Do you ever wonder, "How are we doing as a LifeGroup?" That's a great question to ask! Just like it's important to keep tabs on our physical health, checking in your LifeGroup health can affirm what you're doing well and help you determine areas where you want to grow. For this week's study, we'll dive into 8 LifeGroup Essentials that can help grow your group healthy and strong.

ICEBREAKER: My Favourite LifeGroup Memory

Think back over your experience of being together in LifeGroup. What favourite memory do you have? Maybe for you it was a special meal you shared together, or a time you served together in the community. Maybe it was a time your group cared for one another in a practical way. Share your favourite memory with the group.

STUDY:

At Creekside our mission is to help people FOLLOW JESUS, LOVE GOD and LOVE PEOPLE. LifeGroups are a place where we encourage one another to pursue this mission as we meet together to grow our walk with God and our friendships with each other.

1. Think back over your experience of being in LifeGroup. How has your LifeGroup helped you grow your walk with God? How has your group helped grow friendships with each other?

THE EIGHT ESSENTIALS

The Eight Essentials are a great way to celebrate what God is doing in your LifeGroup and to talk about how you group can grow in the coming months. As you look at each Essential, ask, **"How are we doing in this area?"**

2. ESSENTIAL # 1 – <u>Remain in Jesus</u> A healthy LifeGroup is a place that encourages one another to remain in Jesus.

READ: John 15:1-5

In these verses, Jesus talks about the importance of remaining in Him. "⁵"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

- What does it mean to "remain" in Jesus?

- How can your LifeGroup help one another stay connected Jesus?

3. ESSENTIAL # 2 – Pray Regularly

A healthy LifeGroup prays regularly for one another and encourages each other in the habit of prayer.

READ: Philippians 4:6-7

⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- How are things going with prayer in LifeGroup?

- How does praying for one another impact your life?

4. ESSENTIAL # 3 – <u>Cultivate Relationships</u> A healthy LifeGroup creates opportunities to build friendships with other group members.

READ: Proverbs 17:17

"A friend is always loyal, and a brother is born to help in times of need." NLT

READ: Proverbs 27:9

"The heartfelt counsel of a friend is as sweet as perfume and incense." NLT

READ: Proverbs 27:17

"As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend." NLT

- What are some key values about friendship we get from these Proverbs?
- What are 2 or 3 practical things your LifeGroup can do to grow your friendships with each other?

5. ESSENTIAL # 4 – <u>Share Roles</u>

A healthy LifeGroup ministers to one another by sharing the roles and responsibilities of the group.

READ: 1 Corinthians 12:7

"A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other." NLT

- Brainstorm together the various roles and responsibilities involved with being a LifeGroup. How are things going with sharing these roles?

6. ESSENTIAL # 5 – <u>Compassionately Care</u>

A healthy LifeGroup cares for one another in practical ways.

READ: Galatians 6:2

"Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ." NLT

- What does it mean to "share each other's burdens"?
- What are some practical ways we can care for each other?

7. ESSENTIAL # 6 – Meet Intentionally

A healthy LifeGroup is intentional about planning for great meetings.

READ: Proverbs 21:5

"Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty." NLT

- Good planning can make for a great LifeGroup meeting. How are we doing at planning for our meetings?

ESSENTIAL # 7 – <u>Celebrate Steps</u> A healthy LifeGroup notices and celebrates milestone moments in one another's lives.

READ: Philippians 1:3

"Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God." NLT

 What are some practical ways we can celebrate milestone moments in one another's lives? Essential # 8 – <u>End Well</u> A healthy LifeGroup prepares the group for a future transition.

READ: 2 Timothy 4:7

"I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful." NLT

- Where are we at in the life-span of our group? How can we prepare for future transition?
- Of the Eight Essentials, which do you think is the most important for your group to focus on in the coming months?

PRAYER

This week let's pray for our upcoming event, Coldest Night of the Year. Check it out here! <u>https://cnoy.org/home</u>

- Please pray about your group involvement in CNOY! You can form a team or join Creekside's team here <u>https://secure.e2rm.com/registrant/TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?teamID=971466&langP</u> <u>ref=en-CA</u>
- Pray that funds raised would greatly bless the organizations we support (especially Ray of Hope). <u>https://www.creeksidechurch.ca/rayofhope/</u>