



WEEK OF April 30 - May 6 / GROUP TIME GUIDE

This guide is given to aide in the facilitation of leading your small group. It is only an aide for you to experience Christ together.

ABIDE: BIG PICTURE TOGETHER

Start with Purpose – It's always important to hear from God's Word why we are doing what we are doing! **Have someone read aloud, 1 Corinthians 3:9**

Discuss these questions in your group: Why do we need one another to fulfill this scripture? How does small group fit into this passage? What's the point of us doing life together?

ABIDE: LISTEN TOGETHER

This time of listening to God together is vitally important as the Body of Christ. Let this time lead you into praying together and allowing Jesus to speak to you as a group.

- If you want, sing a song together either with an iPod or with somebody leading from the group.
- This may be a time to simply gaze upon God individually too for a moment and waiting for Him to bring to mind things that need to be said to each other.
- Spend a few moments listening to God through scripture by allowing the Word to speak to and through your group. Feel free to ask group members to use scriptures to encourage another. Nothing is more powerful than using God's Truth to encourage and edify another. God uses His Word through His Body to build up the Body.

CONNECT: LOVE TOGETHER

Use this time to catch up with everyone and ask if there are any prayer requests or matters needing attention. It can be uncomfortable for people to share about themselves and many will want to hear from others, don't let them ignore their personal needs! This is a time for Jesus to shepherd your group through the group. This is one of the few times during the week where our church can accomplish the "one another" lifestyle. Make sure to try and see if there has been any progress in recent requests, praise is equally as important as prayers

"...Comfort one another" – 1 Thessalonians 4:18

After you've prayed, let them know that our group meets all the time. Continue this week to show love by meeting needs. We all are called to pastor the church.

CONNECT: TEACH TOGETHER

Ask someone in the group (or a few people) to read **Psalm 33:11** out loud and then answer and discuss the following together:

1. This past Sunday was “Launch Sunday” for our Next Campaign here are Hope Church. We learned “What’s NEXT” for Hope Church and what a blessing it was. To kick off the sermon, Pastor Vance shared with us three things the Holy Spirit spoke to him through Psalm 33:11. 1) God has a plan, 2) We must hear from the Lord about His plan, and 3) His plan impacts the generations to come.
 - a. **What does it mean that God “has a plan”?**
 - b. **How are we to hear from the Lord about His plans? How did Pastor Vance describe his encounter with God in Psalm 33:11?**
 - c. **How could this plan impact generations to come?**
2. **The plan that God has is always better than our plan. Have someone or a couple of people share a story from their life about making a plan and then realizing God had a different plan. (as the leader make sure you have a story to share in case someone in the group doesn’t.)**
3. **Discuss this quote from Pastor Vance: “To know God’s plan you have to know God’s heart.”**
4. **What was the most exciting part of what we discussed this past Sunday in the Next Chapter piece shared by pastor Vance? (Foster Care, Human Trafficking and/or the Education piece?) What excited you most about it?**
5. Pastor Vance told the story about the start 160 years ago about First Baptist Church Woodstock.
 - a. **What did he say about Las Vegas in the story?**
 - b. **What or who could be Hope’s “Las Vegas” in our story in the coming years?**
 - c. **Why is it important for us to look into the future impact we will have even when most if not all of us will be alive.**
6. **What did you hear we haven’t discussed tonight that you would like to talk about?**

SHARE: MOBILIZE TOGETHER

1. Ask God together as a group to do what only He can do in this NEXT campaign. Ask Him not to bless it for us, but for His honor and Glory that the ends of the earth would know and worship Him!
2. Ask God to begin to soften our hearts to give sacrificially and from a heart that sees what He sees so others would be able to know Him too!