



WEEK OF June 4 - June 10 / GROUP TIME GUIDE

This guide is given to aide in the facilitation of leading your small group. It is only an aid 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 12:12-13**

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

"...be kind to one another" —Ephesians 4:32

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 **Proverbs 30:8-9, Jeremiah 29:11, Romans 8:28**, out loud and then answer and discuss the following together:

1. This past Sunday was celebration Sunday! We were able to gather together as a fellowship and praise God for all that He has done and what He will do, through this NEXT campaign. As we wrap up this NEXT series, Pastor Vance gave us four reminders as we move forward, the first being, *“God is faithful even when it doesn’t feel like it.”* Here, he used the examples of God’s provision through parting the Red Sea and forty years of manna.
 - a. **Both of these miracles were God’s provision, but with two very different responses., Has there ever been a time where God has provided but it wasn’t as you expected it to be? Explain**
 - b. **How can we be content with “manna” when we are asking for “the Red Sea”?**
2. Secondly, Pastor Vance reminded us that, *“God is always on time (He’s seldom early, but is never too late).”* Using the story of Lazarus from John 11, he taught us the lesson that when it seems too late to us, it doesn’t mean it’s too late to God. His timing is always on time, never late, and hardly early.
 - a. **Is there something you are waiting on or going through that may feel like it’s too late? How can the reality that God is never late be helpful?**
 - b. **Has anyone ever been through something where it had seemed all hope was lost, but in time, they realized it was really in God’s timing?**
3. Thirdly, we learned, *“God knows what we don’t know.”* We can plan all we want, but ultimately, we are at the mercy of God’s plans, and we should plan with that in mind (James 4:14-15).
 - a. **How is the reality that God knows what we don’t know comforting to us?**
 - b. **How should we plan according to James 4:14-15?**
4. Finally, Pastor Vance shared, *“God’s way is always for our good and his glory.”* Romans 8:28 assures us of this truth. Whatever God does or allows, it is always for our good and, more importantly, His glory.
 - a. **What does it mean that something is for our good and God’s glory? What does God’s glory look like?**

SHARE: MOBILIZE TOGETHER

1. Thank God for the reality that he is faithful, always on time, knows what we don’t know, and always working for our good and His glory.
2. Pray for each other, is there a pressing need in the group? Take this time to cover whatever is urgent or necessary in prayer.
3. Ask God to continue to provide for us as a Church as we look to push back the darkness of Las Vegas, the West, and the World.

