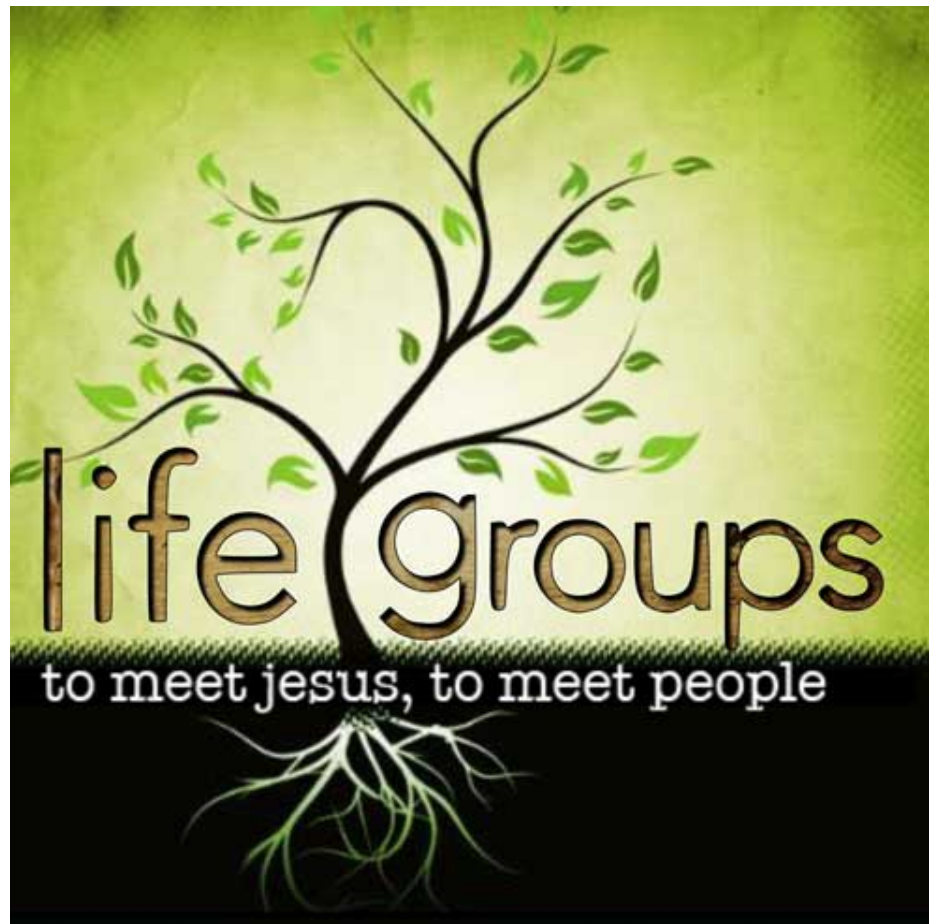


LIFE in 3D



Welcome to LIFE Group!

Please take a few minutes as you start your journey as a group to read this together. Consider it as something of an orientation to LIFE Groups. At Lakeside, we believe that life in relationship with Jesus is meant to be "full and meaningful" (John 10:10). This life is also meant to be lived together. As you continue to meet in the coming weeks let me encourage you to strive to pursue a group life that is "3 D". The 3 Dimensions of the full and meaningful life Jesus promised are Up, In and Out. 1. Up: developing an intimate relationship with God 2. In: sharing life with friends who are on the same spiritual journey with you and 3. Out: reaching out with love and compassion to others. LIFE Groups that are healthy, biblical and life-changing will contain elements of all three. When one or two of those dimensions is missing or weak, your group experience will seem flat and disappointing. On the other side of this brochure are some thoughts on Vision, Values and Guidelines for LIFE Groups. Please take some time to discuss these as a group over the next few weeks.

LIFE in 3D New Testament Style: " All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity — all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved." Acts 2:42-47

LIFE Group Vision, Values and Guidelines

Vision:

LIFE Groups exist to provide an environment for healthy relationships to form and for participants to pursue spiritual maturity in Christ. Key to this is:

- Growing in our relationship with Jesus. (Col. 1:28)
- Experiencing the power, presence and purpose of Christ in our midst. (Acts 2:42-47)
- Building healthy relationships; discovering the life changing dynamics of true biblical fellowship. (Acts 4:32-35)
- Praying and caring for each other. (John 13:34-35)
- Supporting and encouraging each other in living Christ-like lives, making an impact on our world. (John 17:18)

Values:

- Relationships: LIFE Groups are not classes and although they may use a curriculum, building friendships is key.
- Authenticity: The atmosphere should encourage openness and transparency among members. This is an environment where people should feel free to be themselves.
- Confidentiality: For authenticity to occur, members must be able to trust that issues discussed within the group are not shared outside the group.
- Respect: Group members should never say anything that will embarrass their spouses or members of the group.
- Priority: Successful LIFE Groups are characterized by a commitment to the weekly gathering of the group and to caring for each other between meetings.
- Mission: LIFE Groups need to form a clear sense of mission as a group that goes beyond just getting together once a week. How are we making a difference in the world?

Group Guidelines:

1. The group will meet on _____ (day of the week)
2. The group sessions will begin at _____ (am/pm) and end at _____ (am/pm)
3. Group members will attend and participate on a regular basis.
4. Members agree to pray for other group members on a weekly basis.
5. Our group has a particular passion for _____ (missional focus)