

Appendix 1: New Life Groups

Recruiting New People:

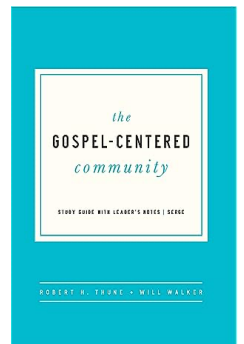
We are glad to point people who are interested in a Life Group to your new group. However, the best way to add people is through you personally inviting them. Start with friends and others you know that aren't in a group. Then ask people you see at church if they are in a group. Try to prioritize those who live closest to you as proximity often better lends to doing life together community.

First Few Meetings:

- ◆ Share the vision of Life Groups (see p. 2) in your first few meetings. It's good for them to know what you are aiming at.
- ◆ Build a culture of connection early by going around and asking people to share their story. Model early the type of vulnerability you'd like to see in your group. You can do this a few ways:
 - Share something significant that happened in each 3rd of your life. (Ex. If 60 years old, share something from 0-20, 21-40, and 41-60).
 - Share the story of your spiritual journey.
 - Share how you met your spouse, along with what you have found more rewarding and challenging in marriage.

First Curriculum to Use:

We ask all new Life Groups to begin with the 9-week study, **“The Gospel-Centered Community.”** It includes 9 lessons and will give you an opportunity to build a strong foundation of how to grow in the gospel as a Life Group.



Other suggestions:

- ◆ Frequency: Set the day, time and frequency that best meets your and group members schedule.
- ◆ Food: Try to have something, whether snacks or deserts at every meeting. Rotate who brings it.
- ◆ Outside Socials: Try to organize having at least 2-3 socials outside of group time the first semester. Have someone host a dinner or game night. Meet at a park or someones house to swim one Saturday. This helps set the expectation that this is not merely a Bible Study.
- ◆ Delegate: Delegate responsibilities of providing food, organizing social activities, taking prayer requests, and even leading the discussion.