



COMMUNITY GROUPS

LF

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CHURCH

At Live Free Church
we believe that we
are ***better together.***

What are community groups?

Community groups are a group of 10-12 adults who meet weekly to build authentic relationships and live out the gospel. These groups will go over sermon questions each week.

What do community groups do?

We meet weekly in homes for 1.5 - 2 hours. These meetings will start with coffee and tea to start. A discussion around the weekly sermon will fill up most of the time, with light refreshments to follow.

Our community groups are all about creating community. It's pretty simple.

Community groups encourage real relationships. We believe that we are a lonely generation that craves to be connected in authentic community. Our culture lives in a hyper connected society, yet we all still feel very alone.

Our community groups will focus on these three things each week:

Sharing

Each week, we will take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include some planned "sharing questions." After the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as our group feels safer and more comfortable.

Study

Each week we'll study a portion of God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon. Our goal is to learn how to apply and live out our Christianity in our day-to-day experiences and relationships.

Support

Each week, we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (see John 15:9-13). This care will take many forms, such as praying, listening, meeting needs, and encouraging and even challenging one another as needed.

Only if you are part of a community of believers seeking to resemble, serve, and love Jesus will you ever get to know Him and grow into his likeness.

Tim Keller

How often do they meet?

We meet weekly for three seasons a year, (Late Sept - Early Dec, Late Jan - Early March, April - June). So, roughly they will meet for 10 weeks in a row three times a year.

How do I join one?

Ever try to find the right type of jeans? It might take you a few pairs to find the right fit. The same is with community groups.

One size doesn't fit all. It might take you 3 groups to find the right fit. It's ok if you don't find the right fit the first time. Community takes time, but once you find it, it's worth it.

You can sign up online through the website, at the connect table, or through the app.

In order to find the right fit, we will be evaluating each season to make sure that you feel like you can truly be in community.

At the end of each season we will ask three questions.

1. Will You remain in the same community group?
2. Will you try a new community group?
3. Will you take a break from community groups?

This evaluation tool each season will help us understand group dynamics and find the right fit.

*And all who believed
were together
and had all things in **common**.*

Acts 2:44

Community Group Covenant

This covenant is reviewed and signed at the beginning of each quarter by all groups. Groups that are continuing still review the covenant during the first meeting of each quarter.

Session Dates: _____
Leader(s): _____ Phone # _____
Host(s): _____ Phone # _____

This covenant will help us discuss and clarify our goals, expectations, and commitments as a group. Since healthy groups thrive on trust and participation, a clear covenant is an important starting point toward a successful community group experience.

Community Groups: **Our Basic Purpose**

Community groups exist to promote the development of significant Christian relationships centred around the gospel. (see Hebrews 10:24 – 25; Romans 8:29).

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Five Marks of a Healthy Group

For our group to be healthy, we need to:

1. Focus on the gospel.
2. Dealing with sin and idolatry.
3. Focused on reaching people in our community.
4. Being vulnerable.
5. Being intentional, showing up and being available.

Guidelines and Covenant

1. Dates We'll meet on _____ nights for _____ weeks.
Our final meeting of the quarter will be on _____.

2. Time

The community group will meet at _____.
We will spend approximately _____ minutes, _____ minutes in study/
discussion, and _____ minutes in prayer/sharing.

3.Children

Group members are responsible to arrange childcare for their children.
Nursing newborns are welcome, provided they are not a distraction to the group.

4. Study

Each week, we'll study the same topic(s) covered in the previous weekend's sermon.

5. Prayer

Our group will be praying each week for one another.

6. Attendance and Expectations.

Joining a community group requires a commitment to be at the weekly gathering, and to do the homework (listen to the sermon) ahead of time. Obviously, there will be times when you can't make it due to sicknesses, vacations and so on. You can't be apart of a community if you are not committed to it.

Each week will require listening to the sermon (if you miss a week, you can watch on youtube, or on the podcast) and checking over the sermon questions (you can see them on the website under the sermon).

7. Socials.

Once per season we will throw one social. Examples: Backyard BBQ, Skating at Big White, house party.

8. Service Projects.

Once per season we will do something to impact our community.

We agree together in Christ to honour this covenant.
(To be decided on and signed by each group member on or before the
Third week.)

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 11. _____ | 12. _____ |
| 13. _____ | 14. _____ |

Leaders Responsibilities

This is a list of the responsibilities that are presented to leaders before they agree to lead a community group at Live Free Church.

Community group leaders are expected to do the following:

Prepare and Lead the Meeting

Along with listening to the sermon and taking notes, you are expected to host the community group. You can access the sermon on the website, youtube, or on the app.

Listen To All Training Sessions

For new leaders we sessions on the podcast, and we will schedule bite sized sessions to help you lead your group.

Track the Needs of Community Group Members

As a group leader, you will often be the first line of spiritual defence in the lives of your community group members. It will be your responsibility (along with your host) to keep in touch with the spiritual pulse of the people in your group.

Communicate Needs to Your Coach and/or Pastors

It's possible that some issues will surface in your group or in a member's life that are beyond your experience, expertise, or comfort zone. In that case, communicate your concerns up-line to either your coach or one of the staff for guidance or additional help.

Track Weekly Attendance

Group leaders need to turn in a weekly attendance. This can be done through an app that we will provide. These attendance sheets are very important. They not only help us track who is in a group; they also help us keep an overall pulse on the groups as a whole.

Visit Members in the Hospital

When a crisis or major illness hits, your group needs to spring into action. You will take the lead in providing any needed meals or practical help, you as a community group leader need to be sure that you and others from the group are available for prayer and support.

Building Community

As a leader you are responsible to help foster and grow your community group. This looks like having coffee or dinner with each person per semester.

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