

# Devoted

*Living deeply and widely in the family of God*



## Life Group Connection Guide

Seeks to help you dig deeper into God's Word on your own and aid in your discussion in a Life Group during the week. Follow the simple prompts below in a journal or together in a small group setting. If you would like to join a midweek Life Group, please contact: [jon@neighborhoodchurch.com](mailto:jon@neighborhoodchurch.com)

### Jan. 25 — Devoted to Praise (*Colossians 3:15-17*)

#### • Welcome & Ice Breaker:

- *If you could have any musical artist release a worship album...who would it be? Why them? What do you think the impact would be on the world? On you?*

#### Important Dates:

Donate to Care Packs VERY MUCH IN NEED OF: chewy granola bars, peanut butter crackers, fruit snacks, individual Kleenex packs, and men's XL athletic socks (black or white) • Drop Off in Cypress Campus Lobby

- Worship Night Sunday Evening, Jan. 25, 4:30-5:30pm • Cypress Campus Room 206
- Baptism Sunday Feb. 22 • Have you followed Jesus in being baptized?
- Contact Pastor Terry [terry@neighborhoodchurch.com](mailto:terry@neighborhoodchurch.com)

#### • Opening Prayers:

- Hold yourself before the Lord // Psalm 139:23
  - *What emotions are you feeling as you come to Life Group?*
  - Hold all of yourself out to Him and sit quietly • Allow God to come close to you & care for you in prayer right now • Listen for His voice/presence/leading
- Hold what you are holding before the Lord // Psalm 90:17
  - *What are you dealing with, working on, preparing for?*
  - Hold it out to Him and sit quietly • Allow God to come close to you & establish the work of your hands • Listen for His voice/presence/leading
- Return • Recommit • Repent • Reattach to the LORD who is with you // Psalm 139:24
  - *Draw near to God as He draws near to you*
  - *...I acquiesce to You Abba Father, to work and pray and seek Your own through me"*

#### • Scripture Passage: *Colossians 3:15-17*

- Begin by reading the passage out loud; even a few times if it is a shorter passage in order to let it settle down inside you.
- As the Scripture is being read, pay attention to any word, phrase, or feeling that the Holy Spirit may be highlighting to you.
- Then share what you noticed and/or write down your observations as the Spirit leads.

- **Discussion/Personal Reflection**

What challenged you, or stood out to you during your devotional time with the Lord Jesus this week? If you were able to hear it, what did the Holy Spirit point out to you personally from Sunday's sermon?

Read Colossians 3:15. How have you experienced "the peace of Christ ruling in your heart"? What does that look like? Is it an overruling of your desires/will/ways? Is it an invitation to surrender in order to experience His peace? How does the peace of Christ, gratitude, teaching and singing help us become "one body"? When have you allowed Christ's peace to rule in your heart for the sake of another? What was that like?

Read Colossians 3:16. What does it mean to let the Word of Christ "dwell in you richly"? as opposed to poorly. What helps you ingest & chew on God's Word versus scarfing & rushing through God's Word? What does it look like to teach and admonish one another in a helpful way? Who has done this well with you? What is the opposite of admonishing? Why does that not help us experience the peace of Christ and the unity in His body?

Read 1 Corinthians 10:31 & Colossians 3:17. How do you know when someone is living for God's glory and not their own? How does expressing gratitude to God daily help keep God's glory as your aim? What are you most grateful to God for right now at the beginning of the year? How has he heard you, seen you, and met you in recent days? What area of your life do you want to do with Jesus, and not without Him, right now? Express your heart to Him now.

- **Closing in Prayer:**

- Ministries/Missionaries: Bruce and Sue Camp
  - *DualReach is a missions education organization for churches in the US & global evangelism in Cuba, Pakistan, and other parts of the world.*
  - *Please pray for 3 young men who are new brothers in the faith. They come from strict, traditional families who do not approve of their faith. Pray for perseverance in the face of persecution*
- Consider those who the Holy Spirit may be placing on your heart to pray for • Hold them up to the Lord for His intervening love in their lives • Allow Him to care for them through your prayer right now.
- *"Lord, who are You putting on my heart today? Who needs a special touch from You in their life? Who can I hold up to You in prayer?*