

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

Mar. 1 — Devoted to Sharing (2 King 4:1-7)

- **Welcome & Ice Breaker:**
 - *Imagine you're carrying an invisible backpack filled with things you have to offer — not money or objects, but qualities, skills, experiences, connections, encouragement, wisdom, humor, patience, etc. What's one thing I have a lot of that others might need? What's something I can easily share? What's something I sometimes forget is valuable? Depending on the size of your group, give everyone 2-3 min to share. If the group is large, divide up into groups of 3. Then have each person begin by saying: "In my backpack, I have _____ to share." After everyone shares, ask: Did you hear something you might need? Who has something in their backpack that surprised you?*
- **Important Dates:**
 - **Welcome to the Family** Mar 1, 8, 15, 22 @ 9AM on Sundays • Cypress Campus, Room 1
 - Interested in becoming a member? Email: terry@neighborhoodchurch.com
 - **AlbaniaCuba Missions Share Night** Saturday, Mar 22 @ 6-7:30PM • Cypress Campus Worship Center
 - **Easter Trunk Hop** Sat, Mar 28 @ 3:30-5:30PM • Decorate your car trunk for a community kids event!
 - Interested in helping out? Email: kids@neighborhoodchurch.com
 - **Camp Aid** Helps Send Neighborhood Church Kids & Students to Camp • Donate anytime!
- **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*
 - *"Heavenly Father, I live and have my being in You. I humbly pray You would so guide & govern me by Your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations in my life that I may not forget You, but may remember that I am ever walking in Your sight; through Jesus Christ my Lord, amen."*

- **Scripture Passage: 2 Kings 4:1-7**

- 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 **2 Kings 4:1-7**. Many of Elisha's miracles point forward to Jesus and Jesus' miracles echoes back to Elisha. Jesus heals the widow's son in Luke 7:11-17 reflecting back Elisha's ministry to the Shunamite woman's son in 2 Kings 4:32-37. Elisha multiplies bread in 2 Kings 4:42-44 points to Jesus feeding five thousand men in Matthew 14. Elisha instructs Naaman the leper just as Jesus heals lepers in Luke 4; just to name a few. Share a time when Jesus provided a miracle in your own life, no matter how small, no matter how big? Why did it impact you so? Testify to God's past faithfulness to you & strengthen your community's faith and trust in God!

- Read John 10:10. How do we see a contrast of the enemy and Jesus? What are three things that Jesus does? What are three things the thief/deceiver/devil does? What is your definition of an abundant or full life that Jesus provides? What does it include? What does it not include? What are some barriers in this life from experiencing a full life with Jesus? Do we really believe that Jesus can provide a full life for us?

- Read Philippians 4:15-19. Here we see Paul has been a financially and prayerfully supported missionary from the churches in Philippi. What is Paul's reaction to their generous support? Have you ever supported anyone with prayer or monies to send people on a mission trip? Share how this was a blessing to the group and how it might have been difficult for you as well. How has God shaped your heart and transformed your outlook when He has invited you to invest in His Kingdom work through others? Remember back to the person God sent to you (through the support of others) to share with you the good news of Jesus Christ!

- **Closing in Prayer:**

- *Ministries/Missionaries: Matt & Holly Milton*
 - *Campus ministry & evangelism in Phoenix, AZ*
 - *Please pray for Matt has been diagnosed with a "weak heart." We are looking into the next steps for this. Pray for him as he manages his health, family, and work. Holly returns to Phoenix Seminary for her next class toward her PhD in Ministry. Her Discipleship Training Class begins at the end of January, where she trains women to disciple others.*
- 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?"*