

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. 8 — Devoted to Walking in Grace (Colossians 4:2-6)

- **Welcome & Ice Breaker:**
 - *The Game is BLURT! Find a partner and you are going to try, when given a category, and blurt out the same answer! Keep track of how many times you say the same answer! The idea here is to experience joy when you match & grace when you do not! Some categories: Sport to watch? Sport to play? Country in Europe? A color in the rainbow? Best ice cream flavor? Board game? Instrument? Animal in the jungle? Cartoon character? Superhero? Coffee drink? Shoe brand? Breakfast food? Actor/actress? Book of the bible? Dog breed? Things in the fridge? Item you take on a vacation? Things you do before bed? Things you hid from your kids? Etc. Feel free to make up your own. How do we show grace in competition? Is this easy for you? Hard for you? Why or why not?*
- **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** Help 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: Colossians 4:2-6**

- 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 Hebrews 4:14-16. How does a life devoted to prayer keep us grounded in grace rather than drifting into self-reliance, anxiety, or spiritual complacency? What specific habits help you remain watchful and thankful in prayer? How might your evangelistic opportunities change if prayer became your first response rather than your last resort?

- Read Matthew 5:13-16. What does it practically look like to "walk in wisdom toward outsiders?" How does gracious living create credibility for the gospel? Where are your primary "outsider" spaces (workplace, neighborhood, gym, family gatherings)? What would redeeming the time look like there this week?

- Read Luke 4:22. How can we cultivate speech that is both gracious and truthful - words that reflect Christ and are appropriate for each person? Think about a recent difficult conversation. How might grace have changed your tone, timing, or choice of words? What rhythms (prayer, Scripture meditation, slowing down) help season your speech before it leaves your mouth?

- **Closing in Prayer:**

- Ministries/Missionaries: Greg & Jen Weaver
 - *Church Ministry in Portugal*
 - *Please pray for TeamWorks training to develop to its potential to support the growth of healthy ministry team. Pray for opportunities to use leadership develop in the communities around them. Pray for their local Portuguese area as they love people freely to grow gospel communities. Pray for the 3 Weaver children: Makayla & Ezekiel & Zoey.*
- 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?"*