



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

April 26 — On Grace We Stand (*Galatians 2:15-3:9*)

- **Welcome & Ice Breaker:**
 - *Name something simple that you absolutely prefer not to do alone—even if you technically could? What makes it better with someone else? Think of a time when someone helped you in a way that made a bigger difference than you expected. What did they do—and why did it matter? What's something in your life that's hardest for you to let someone else handle or help with? When it comes to asking God for help, when do you tend to do that: at the beginning, the middle, the end? Why is that do you think?*
- **Important Dates:**
 - **SHINE Returns** Wednesday, April 15 • 6:45pm-8:15pm • Ages TK-6th Grade • Cypress Campus Gym
- **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: Galatians 2:15-3:9**
 - 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 1 Corinthians 1:27-31. How would you sum up Paul's words here? What words does Paul use to describe Jesus here? What words does he use to describe us? When you look at what Jesus became for us (wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption), which one are you particularly grateful for right now? Why is that?

- Read Ephesians 4:15-16. What kind of picture do you get in your mind after reading Paul's words here? What is he trying to help the believers understand about Jesus and each other? When have you experienced significant spiritual growth? Who aided you in your walk with Christ Jesus? How did they speak the truth to you in love? When have you helped a fellow brother or sister grow up in and closer to Christ?

- Read Colossians 1:27-28. What a claim Paul is making: that Christ is now in us, and that is the hope of glory! How do you experience Christ living in you: freedom, transformation, conviction, empowerment, healing? How has Christ's presence in your life strengthen your hope? How have you learned to trust in Christ alone instead of trusting in yourself?

- **Closing in Prayer:**

- Use this time to share prayer requests (with the Lord in a journal or with each other in a Life Group), holding them up to the Lord Jesus for His care & guidance this next week.
- Consider those who the Holy Spirit may be placing on your heart to pray for this day. Seek to hold them up to the Lord for His intervening love in their lives or in your own.
- *"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?"*