

# 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)

### Feb. 1 — Devoted to the Breaking of Bread (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

- **Welcome & Ice Breaker:**
  - *What is your all-time favorite bread to eat? Where do you get it? Is bread better fresh and warm, or toasted the next day? Do you put anything on your bread to enhance the experience: butter, spices, oils, parmesan cheese? What's a bread from your childhood that you still think about? What is it about breaking bread that seems to be create community on the spot?*
- **Important Dates:**
  - Youth Groups Tuesday Evenings 7-8:30pm • Cypress Campus Gym
  - SHINE KIDS @ 6:45-8:15pm • 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
    - "...I acquiesce to You Abba Father, to work and pray and seek Your own through me"
- **Scripture Passage: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26**
  - Begin by reading the passage out loud; even a few times if it is a shorter passage 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 Matthew 26:26-28. What role has Communion/The Lord's Supper/The Eucharist (taken from the Greek words for thanksgiving, grateful, grace) played in your spiritual life? What is your earliest memory of taking communion? Does your experience of taking communion feel individual or communal? How so? What happens between you & God when you take communion? How can the taking of communion together at church strengthen our relationships at church?
  
- Read Luke 22:19-20. What does the cup represent here? What does the bread represent here? Why do you think Jesus associates the bread with His body? Why does Jesus associate the cup of wine with the pouring out of His blood? What is Jesus trying to communicate to His disciples then and us today? Why then does Jesus remind us to remember Him like this? What might life look like if we participated in this kind of remembrance more often?
  
- Read John 6:35. What is Jesus saying about Himself here? What kind of thirst and hunger is Jesus speaking to here? What do we tend to thirst for and hunger for that we believe will satisfy our deep soul longings or fears or even everyday needs other than God? How does Jesus' claim here relate to what God did in Exodus 16:1-8? What feels hard to look to Jesus for right now? Write out a prayer to Him straight from your heart:

- **Closing in Prayer:**

- Ministries/Missionaries: *Martin & Silvia Castro*
  - *Commission Ministers Network provides ministry training and evangelism in Tijuana & Cuba.*
  - *Please pray for Martin & Silvia as they prepare to move to Cuba to be missionaries there.*
- 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?"*