

Life Groups

Meeting weekly in a neighborhood near you!

lifeline | 02.07.10

Ice Breaker

Use one of the following questions to open up discussion (if you have first-time guests, be sure to have people tell their names as they answer the ice-breaker question.)

- 1 How did you and your spouse (significant other) first meet?
- 2 What was the relationship between your parents like? What one quality of their relationship do you want to have in your current/future marriage?
- 3 If you were handed one million dollars with no obligations, what would you do with it?

Life Church's Mission

To honor God and advance His Kingdom by building disciples who will give their lives to change the world.

Upcoming Events

Life Groups Still Open: It's not too late to invite others to join your group. Encourage your group to invite others (even if they don't attend Life Church) that they think might enjoy in being part of your group.

Rock & Worship Roadshow: The Rock & Worship Roadshow will be held at Consecro on **Thursday, March 18**. This is going to be an amazing evening of music and worship to benefit children with juvenile diabetes via "Imagine A Cure" as well as Compassion International. The cast for this evening will include **Mercy Me, David Crowder Band, Family Force 5, Francesca Battistelli, Fee, Remedy Drive, and Sidewalk Prophets** and all for a general admission ticket of \$10. **Jennifer Wright** is gathering 70 volunteers for this event. This may be a great event to serve at with your Life Group. Contact Jennifer for more details: jaw714@gmail.com, 317-640-2258.

Your Life Group Environment

As you gather each week the environment your group meets in can go a long way in promoting or hindering your group's progress. Here are some things to consider:

- **Seating**—does everyone have comfortable seats? Can they see each other?
- **Lighting & Temperature**
- **Distractions**—loud children, barking dogs, TV, etc. could all be distractions that will keep people from fully engaging in the conversation, prayer times and what God is doing.
- **Time**—Try to keep your group meeting to 90 minutes each week. Having a clear and consistent end time will allow people to fully participate without having to worry about getting home or if group will run long.
- **Late Arrivers**—If you notice a pattern of a particular individual constantly arriving late, talk with them to understand why. If it can be avoided, help them see the impact arriving late has on the group.



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Study/prayer time: *Please feel free to adjust this study to fit your group's needs and to God's leading. It is not necessary to use all of the questions.*

1. What has been some of the most important steps you've taken to strengthen your relationship?
2. Were there any areas (or re there now, if you're just dating/engaged) that you wish you would have understood or prepared for better before getting married?
3. Tony referred to the story of how Abraham found a wife for his son Isaac in Genesis 24. Have a few volunteers read three sections from this story: Genesis 24:1-4, 10-21 and 61-67.
 - A) How does this story speak to marriage and us today?
 - B) Do you think God has 'one' person for you? Why or why not?
 - C) Re-read vs 67: *"Isaac brought her into the tent of his mother Sarah, and he married Rebekah. So she became his wife, and he **loved her**; and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death."*

It says Isaac "loved her." In this case love was definitely a decision because all they had to go on was God's word. The commitment led to decision to love and grow closer. Why is understanding this important to us?

Some possible responses:

- + We tend to live by emotions. If we don't 'feel' in love then we don't give love.
- + Right decisions should lead over emotions
- + Emotions can easily be selfish. I love you because you make ME happy.
- + Selfless love is sacrificial.
- + God tells us to love, so we do it regardless of what we feel (just like Isaac did)

If your group has some or all singles, you may want to consider using some or all of these alternative questions.

- A) Do you feel pressure from society, your family, friends, etc. to get in a serious relationship? How do you handle that?
- B) What steps are you taking now to prepare for your future spouse?
- C) Have someone read John 13:34. It says "as I have loved you."
 - + How does understanding the love Christ has for us affect how we love others, and specifically our future spouse one day?
 - + There is nothing you can do to prepare yourself better for your future mate then to strengthen your walk with God and pursue your relationship with Christ. What are you doing now to understand Christ' love better? What aspects of a relationship with Christ are difficult for you to grasp?

Prayer Time: Give people an opportunity to share any prayer requests they might have. Pray for these requests as a group and also pray for those that are in serious/marriage relationships.