



LIFE GROUPS AT LEFC

VISION, MISSION, AND STRATEGY

VISION // WHERE WE ARE GOING

Because of their unique qualities, Life Groups are an essential part of fulfilling LEFC's Mission to *make disciples who love God, love people, live truth, and proclaim Christ.*

MISSION // HOW WE ARE GETTING THERE

LEFC creates a positive environment to provide healthy and safe places called *Life Groups* for people to build relationships and be the church in their Oikos (unique community).

GENERAL STRATEGY

1. ON-RAMPS FOR NEW GROUPS // LITE6 GROUPS through Starting Point (3X/year) offer opportunities for new groups to begin. New groups can also begin from Summer Interest Groups, ABFs, special studies, etc. Contact the church office for Starting Point dates.
2. LEADER TRAINING // Quarterly training (except Summer). Leaders should make every effort to attend.
 - a. Emotionally Healthy Spirituality. (Emotionally Healthy Inventory)
 - b. It's not about Religion (understanding the Gospel) (*The Prodigal God*, Tim Keller)
 - c. The Safest Place, Spiritual Community defined.
 - d. Understanding People. (Personality and Giftedness) – uniquelyyou.org
 - e. Tools for accurate discovery of the biblical text.
 - i. Inductive Bible Study Methods (*Living by the Book*, Dr. Howard G. Hendricks)
 - ii. OT/NT Overview (*Multiply*, Francis Chan)
 - iii. Bible Doctrine Overview (*A Survey of Bible Doctrine*, Chas. Ryrie)
 - f. Conflict Resolution – Understanding Matthew 18 – peacemaker.net
 - g. Prayer and personal disciplines (*The Spirit of the Disciplines*, Dallas Willard)
 - h. The Church, the Christ-follower and culture. (*Habits of the Heart*, Robert Bellah)
3. SPIRITUAL MATURITY EVALUATION // Spiritual Transformation Inventory (STI) – spiritualtransformation.org
4. LEADER MULTIPLICATION
 - a. Leaders are multiplied within groups and through the quarterly training.
 - b. LG Coordinator will mentor (on the job and through personal meetings) experienced LG Leaders who later become Coaches (shepherds) of 4 or 5 LG leaders.
5. GROUP MULTIPLICATION
 - a. Leaders and Coaches encourage groups to multiply
 - b. Leaders and Coaches guide the process
 - c. Sometimes groups who multiply may wish to form an ABF
6. RESOURCES (PERSONAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING/GROWTH)
 - a. The LG webpage is a source of discipleship and community information.
 - b. The church library has a plethora of books/DVDs on these topics.

GROUP TEACHING STRATEGY

Sermon-based questions/discussion is the teaching strategy for all groups. Deeper study questions based upon the weekly teaching each Sunday morning, provides a better way to meaningful personalization. It also aligns with the Elder's long-range teaching plan, as well as providing ease of preparation for the leader. The questions are posted on the church website soon after services each Sunday morning. Departures from this strategy should be the exception and for a season.