

Life Is Better Together Discussion Guide

The world we live in today has people becoming more and more isolated from each other. There is a growing trend to disconnect from others and engage in a virtual world online.

It is written in the bible that in the end times, people will forget the importance of relationships with others and forget about meeting together for the cause of Jesus.

This 6-week series is intended to show you the 5 things Harbor Light Community Chapel tries to accomplish with it's small groups. We pray you are challenged and convicted to move from where you are now to a deeper more committed relationship with Jesus and other believers.

One of the most important elements to this campaign is the discussion time. The opportunity for people to question, comment and wrestle with the issues brought up in this series is the place that spiritual growth happens the most. We like to say, "you grow most sitting in a circle."

As a host we are encouraging you to read through the discussion questions before hand so you can be comfortable with them and tweak them to fit your group and situation.

We encourage you to watch the video before each session. This will also help you anticipate questions people may ask that are not connected to the supplies questions. Please allow people to ask their own questions as we know that is when people grow the most.

Session 1: Fellowship

Thoughts from the Session

We Serve a God who is a Triune God. He is 3 in 1. He is so into relationship, he created us to have fellowship with. You were created to be in relationship with God and others.

Revelation 3:20 "Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends.

When you hear the term "Fellowship" what comes to mind for you?

How can you have fellowship with God, especially since you can't see him?

If the church is vital to help people with their growth with God and others, what differences are there between Church Services and Church Small Groups?

How has Jesus used community to help you grow and mature in your walk with Him?

What are the advantages to walking through life with people who are different than you in personality, past experiences and interests? What is uncomfortable about walking with people who are different than you? How does Jesus want to use this discomfort to help you grow?

What if any areas of your life are you living and thinking like an "I" instead of like a "we"? (major life decisions, sin struggles, doubts, aspirations, marriage, parenting, dating, etc.)

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Session 2: Prayer

Thoughts from the Session

Prayer is the two-way conversation between you and God.

Personal Prayer – the daily communication and connection just between you and God.

God is looking forward to each and every conversation with you. Even though God already knows every thought we have, he still wants to have us share our thoughts with him.

Public Group Prayer – when the saints gather to connect.

What is the hardest part to personal prayer?

Have you ever heart God's voice?

Do you give him time to share with you his thoughts about whatever you are going through?

Where in your life do you need God's will and not your own?

What area of the "Our Father" prayer that you struggle with the most? Why?

What is the most important thing you need prayer for this week?

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Session 3: Care & Support

Thoughts from the Session

We are always more powerful and impactful together than we are alone.

We need help in our connection with God.

Person to person love is the doorway to God's love.

When we love people, they get a chance to see and believe that God's love is real.

Understanding God's Grace will help us care and support each other.

Philippians 2:1-5 Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? ² Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose. ³ Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. ⁵ You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.

Why do we tend to over complicate our care and support for each other?

What is the area of your life that you need to completely surrender to God?

Is there someone in your life that could use your help in their battles by helping keep their arms raised? How is it even possible to have the same attitude Jesus had? When have you experienced someone being judgmental towards you or someone you love? Do you find yourself wanting to say "at least" when someone is sharing a struggle? What is the most important thing you need prayer for this week? **Notes:**

Session 4: Reaching Out

Thoughts from this Session

The moment a person becomes a Christ Follower, their friend group shrinks dramatically.

We are worthy of God's love only because of His grace in our lives.

Because we have God's love which was not earned, we can share that love with others not because they deserve it.

Obeying God is the greatest expression of love that we can show him.

Matthew 5:14-15 "You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house.

Did you find yourself having fewer friends after you become a Christ Follower? Why do you think that happens?

What images come to your mind when you hear the term "Evangelism"?

Have you shared your story with someone lately? Or ever?

Do you find the tension between fellowship and evangelism?

Session 5: Bible Study

The best place to learn about Jesus is in the bible. Reading the bible will change your life, guaranteed. Many people struggle with understanding what they read out of the bible.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. ¹⁷ God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

Do you own a translation of the bible that is easier for you to understand and retain?

What are the questions you have about the Bible?

How is it encouraging to know that all temptations that you are facing are common, everyone experiences them?

How can you recognize the "way of escape" when tempted?

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Session 6: OUTREACH

What were some of the highlights from your outreach?
Was there a person in your group who really shined during your outreach? How?
How do you think those that you helped felt at the end of the time?
Is there something you would do differently next time?
What is the most important thing you need prayer for this week?
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