

Personal Liturgy

Week 16: The Joy of a Life Not About You

"Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand."

Eugene Peterson

"Everybody wants to save the Earth; nobody wants to help Mom do the dishes."

P.J. O'Rourke

Catch Up On Life:

This is when we update each other on the day in and day out happenings of our lives. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we're praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)

- Celebrate the wins - where have you seen Jesus at work in the last week (growing you or working in others that God's put around you)?
- What (if any) life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)?

Pray: Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives, and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

Review the Mission:

Just like God the Father sent Jesus on a mission of reconciliation for us, Jesus sends us as ambassadors of reconciliation. We are called to make disciples wherever we go. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

1. People:

- Reactive - Who in your life (family, coworkers, etc.) can we join you in praying for? Who has God put around you that is showing spiritual interest? Who is hurting and could use some love from our group?
- Proactive - Who are the people we are intentionally living on mission with (Neighborhood, STC partner or specific demographic in Columbia)? What are our upcoming plans to love, serve and build relationships with this group?

2. Plan:

- Are there any rhythms already planned, or an extra rhythm we could plan to create a way for these friends to connect with our group?

Pray: Prayer is the fuel of God's mission. Let's pray for our people by name; pray for their needs, and opportunities to have spiritual conversations that help them take next steps toward Jesus.

Sermon Discussion:

God uses His Word to help us know Him, to equip us, to show us our sin, and to strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a LifeGroup throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25)

Primary Passages: Philippians 2:1-11

Read and Recap: Have someone read **Philippians 2:1-11** and recap the highlights from this week's sermon.

Read Philippians 1:27 and 2:1-2. How does our unity or lack of unity as a Lifegroup affect our ability to live on mission with those around us?

Read Philippians 2:3-4. In which relationships do “doing nothing out of selfish ambition” or “counting others more significant than yourself” come more naturally for you? Where is it more difficult?

Read Philippians 2:5-8. How was Jesus the perfect example of sacrifice and humility? How does this example motivate us to serve others sacrificially in our everyday lives?

- The challenge this week is to serve one person sacrificially each day. Spend time going around the room sharing how that challenge is going, as well as brainstorming opportunities for the rest of the week.

Pray that your LifeGroup would grow in unity together and with our church family at large.

Pray that God would help you to increasingly have the humble, servant mindset of Jesus, which would result in us serving others.

Engage the Heart:

Jesus calls us to walk in the light, confessing our sins to God and each other. God's Spirit works through confession and community to lead us to repentance. (Romans 3:23-24, James 5:16 and 1 John 1:5-10)

- What sinful thoughts, actions, or words from the past week do you need to confess? Specifically, has God convicted you regarding cynicism through the sermon?
- How does the gospel specifically address and free you up in this area? (Rest of LG speak into their lives: How does the gospel address and free him/her up?)
- What steps of repentance do you need to take? How can we help you walk in repentance?

Pray: James tells us that a community that regularly confesses sin and prays for each other will see a lot of healing. Confess your sins in prayer and pray for each other.