

Helpful Tips for Leading a LifeGroup

Thank you for gathering a group of friends and facilitating a LifeGroup. One of the “Next Steps” at Stone is encouraging everyone to connect in a group and grow in their relationships with each other and with God. LifeGroups help build community in our church. We may not know everyone at Stone, but we want everyone to know someone.

Thank you for leading and creating a space for people to connect, grow, and care for one another. Here are some helpful tips for leading a LifeGroup.

- In advance of your gathering, spend some time in prayer for those in your group.
- Create a good environment: Clean home, music on, etc. If you are meeting in a Coffee Shop or a different location, arrive early and get a good spot.
- Leaders – please prepare ahead of time for the discussion. If you are doing a RightNow Media study, watch the video ahead of time and prepare for the discussion. Do a media check to be sure the video is ready. If you are using the Sermon Discussion read through them in advance and jot down a few thoughts. It’s helpful to have a couple of answers to the questions ready to go if you need it. Facilitate conversation. Ask questions. Be a good listener.
- Communicate well with your group. As your meeting time is a few days out, send a reminder text to let them know that you are looking forward to the next session and give any details about where the group meets, time it meets, etc. (You can meet in a coffee shop, at a Taco Truck, you can rotate host homes, etc.)
- Have fun and be flexible! Roll with how things go and prioritize community and relationship. Feel free to do “theme nights.”
- Involve people because it adds to your group and makes it more fun – Here’s ideas: Co-leaders, Host, food coordinator, game coordinator, prayer coordinator, discussion leader.
- Don’t put people on the spot. For example, not everyone is comfortable reading aloud or praying in front of others.
- Have a plan for kids – options include rotating who leads the kids time, hiring a babysitter, etc.
- Be aware of group dynamics. Example: The dominator... Please refrain from divisive topics. Create a Biblically-based and theologically sound, healthy, encouraging environment. We are always available to reach out to if you have questions that you need help answering.
- Look for those who attend your group on Sundays and talk with them.
- Pray for needs as a LifeGroup.