



Harris Creek Baptist Church

:: sermon/group link ::

Brady Herbert | 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 | February 19, 2012

Life Group Leader Instructions

In preparation for group discussion, take a few minutes to read through the instructions below.

Before Life Group

1. Spend time in prayer and studying the passage.
2. Listen to the sermon and take notes. Write down questions you had while listening to the sermon.
3. Read through all of the material.
4. Write down two or three ways to apply the passage to your daily life.

During Life Group

1. Summarize the sermon in your own words. Ask other group members to do the same.
2. Ask someone to read the text for the group.
3. Lead your group through the discussion questions asking the ones that are relevant to your group. Supplement some of the discussion with your own thoughts and follow-up questions.
4. Share how you might be able to apply the sermon to your everyday life.
5. Close with a time of prayer asking God to increase the depth of our relationship with Him and our obedience to what we learned.

Sermon Recap

In Ephesians 5, the Apostle Paul spends some time talking about the covenant relationship of marriage between a husband and wife. The conclusion he reaches at the end of this discussion is quite odd when you read it for the first time or with fresh eyes. Paul says that our marital relationships are actually a picture of how Jesus relates to us, as Christians, collectively called the Church. Paul says in Ephesians 5:30, "We are members of his body" referring to us mysteriously being part of

Christ's Body in the world. This is an idea he continues to flesh out in 1 Corinthians 12. In this passage, Paul vividly describes for us what it means to take a covenant approach to how we relate to the rest of the Body, the other members of the Church. He will stress that our collective relationship with one another as Christians is imperative to our relationship with Christ Himself.

Passages to Study

Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Other Scripture References: Ephesians 5:29-32 and John 17:20-23

Discussion Questions

1. When you were looking to become a part of a church, what were some things that were really important to you? Is it wrong to look for a church that will meet your needs? Why or why not?
2. What should your primary focus be when deciding which church is best for you?
3. Why is an individualistic and consumeristic approach to our faith incompatible with New Testament Christianity?
4. What does it mean to take a "covenant approach" to your membership with the Church? Does this mean you can or should never leave a local church? What are some good reasons to leave a local church and some unhealthy reasons to leave a church?
5. Why do you think Paul stresses both diversity and unity equally in 1 Corinthians 12?
6. What role do you feel God is calling you to play in this particular Body? Are you playing this role as well as you can at this point?
7. What did you take away from this weekend's message? What will you take away from this series and how will it impact your life moving forward?

LIFE GROUP LEADER TRAINING

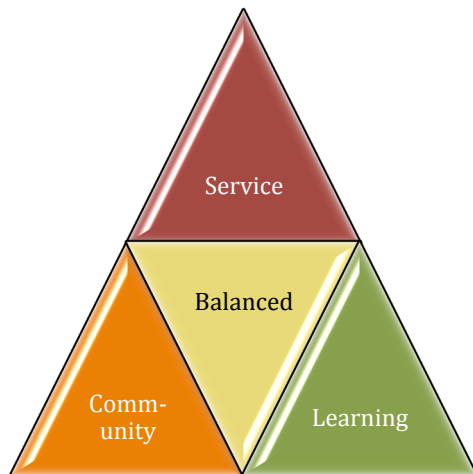
by Brian Horn



harris creek
BAPTIST CHURCH

Balanced

The strongest asset of our Life Group model is YOU. You have been given physical and spiritual gifts that are different from everyone else. Leaders' uniqueness alongside church unity allows us to have one vision, one mission, and lots of outworking. Each Life Group is unique in how they implement our core components of Community, Service, and Learning. Each group will naturally gravitate to one of these aspects because of you and who makes up your group. Some change will occur during various seasons as a group, but there will likely be a constant or two. In this training we want to give you some ideas on how you can take your natural strengths and build on them to help make your group more balanced while still retaining your unique DNA. Take a moment to think about which core component you (and/or your group) naturally gravitate toward.



In order to help you and your group experience more balance, consider these ideas for each core component.

Community:

1. Eat dinner together at least once a month (as a group, or you with someone from your group on another night of the week).

2. Participate in church-wide fellowship events, or host a game night for an upcoming Life Group meeting.
3. Invite another Life Group over for dinner.
4. Spend the first 30 minutes in prayer for one another, and as the leader, model honesty and share personal requests.
5. Pick a different individual/couple each week and lay hands on them and pray for their marriage, kids, work, school, big decisions... whatever is applicable to them.

Service

1. Get a *Mission Service Opportunities* booklet from the slat walls outside the sanctuary.
2. Contact Brian Horn or Elise Haykin at missions@harris creek.org to talk through taking the first steps.
3. Appoint a mission representative for your group, and empower them to take ownership of this component.
4. Attend the Service Training session (or send a group member to attend) on February 26 at 10:30 in the youth room.
5. Set a measurable goal to do one service project in the next 60 days.

Learning

1. Start every other week with discussion time before dinner in order to make sure you spend an allotted time learning together.
2. Go through the questions beforehand and find the best ones for your group.
3. Rotate who facilitates so others spend more time in study preparation.
4. Multiple study materials ranging from theology, Bible, and topical are available at the church. Find one that would be engaging for your group.
5. Ask discussion questions that relate the current week's material to a previous sermon/series for repetition and continuity.