



LIFE GROUPS LEADER TRAINING

**Kingdom Empowerment Christian Church
P.O. Box 564, Seaford, DE. 19973**

WHY LIFE GROUPS EXIST

Life Groups have one, simple purpose—to bring people together. We believe God created us to live in community with others and only then can we experience the full life He intends for us.

We believe life change happens in the context of Relationships

Meaningful relationships can be hard to find, and Life Groups exist to make life-changing relationships relevant and accessible to you.

*Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. **ECCLESIASTES 4:9-12***

At Kingdom Empowerment, we believe our church must grow larger and smaller at the same time.

We grow larger to reach as many people as possible with the life-giving message of Jesus. We gather in Life Groups to build community and care for people.

Kingdom Empowerment is a church of Life Groups, not a church with Life Groups.

We base our Life Group model on the early church as described in the Bible in the book of Acts. In Acts, you can read about the tremendous growth of the first church in Jerusalem, where Life group meetings in homes helped lay the foundation.

*Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah. **ACTS 5:42***

LIFE GROUPS OFFER PEOPLE:

1. A Place to connect

*Yes, whatever a person is like, I try to find common ground with him so that he will let me tell him about Christ and let Christ save him. **1 CORINTHIANS 9:22 TLB***

We were not made to do life alone. God created us for community, and Life Groups provide a place to connect with others, share life, and grow in faith together.

2. A Place to protect

We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters. 1 JOHN 3:16 NLT

It is through life together that our problems become smaller, and God uses others to bring support and encouragement to our lives. Life Groups become a place where others don't just know your name, but care about what is happening in your life and want to support you in your spiritual journey.

3. A Place to grow

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another. PROVERBS 27:17

We believe every person is created with God-given potential to make a difference in the world. Life Groups are a place you can grow with others to become more like Jesus and reach the potential God has put inside you.

WHAT A LIFE GROUP LOOKS LIKE

Your Life is Your Group

At Kingdom Empowerment , we use a natural approach to Life Groups. This means we want people to gather together based on the things they enjoy and are important to them. Essentially, the things you are already doing in your life are the things that can make up your Life Group!

All groups fall within one of seven hubs:

- Teens (Boys and Girls)
- Senior Saints
- Marriage and Family
- Singles (Young / Mature)
- Prayer
- Outreach
- Online
- Couponing
- Sports

Groups meet once monthly throughout the year .

Groups meet in a variety of places like homes, parks, restaurants, movies and coffee shops (at their own expense unless directed otherwise).

No matter what your group meets about, each meeting should be made up of four things:

1. Casual Fellowship

Laid back time for group members to talk and get to know each other.

2. Activity or Discussion

This will vary based on what kind of group you're leading but will be centered around fellowshiping and getting to know the people in your group.

3. Prayer

Ask for prayer requests from group members and pray at the beginning and/or the end of each group meeting.

4. Spiritual Component

This is what differentiates your Life Group from your neighborhood supper club. Whether it's through activities or discussion, always find a way to include the Word of God. This can be as simple as sharing something God is teaching you with the group or talking about a verse you read that week. Life group coordinator will send all group leaders discussion question as a guide to be applied to their group.

Life Groups are not a place for:

- Business
- Offerings
- Unapproved materials or speakers
- Controversial topics

Your Role as a Life Group Leader

God has a part for all of us to play in the church, and Life Group Leaders come alongside the pastors and staff of Kingdom Empowerment is to help care for people.

Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all

come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.

EPHESIANS 4:11-13 NLT

The primary role of a Life Group Leader is to help group members move one step in their walk with God.

Be sure you know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds;

People in your group will be at different places in their spiritual lives and each person will have different next steps to take. Here is a guide of some next steps you can help people take:

- *Start attending Sunday services*
- *Start reading the Bible regularly*
- *Start praying regularly*
- *Be water baptized*
- *Complete our New Partners Orientation*
- *Join our Power Teams*
- *Start tithing*
- *Start attending Midweek services online*
- *Invite a friend or neighbor to church or a Life Group*
- *Attend a Life Group Leadership Training to become a Life Group Leader*

How to be a successful Life Group Leader:

1. Pray daily for the members of your group.
2. Consider partnering with a co-leader to help share the responsibility of caring for and leading your group.
 1. Connect with group members between monthly meetings through phone, email, text, social media, or face-to-face. Encourage group members to connect with each other throughout the week as well.
 2. Have fun through laughter and by creating an enjoyable environment.

3. Respect people's time by beginning and ending your group on time.
4. Invite group members to attend church services and events with you
5. Rally the group around a member going through a crisis. Use wisdom and be sensitive.

The Importance of Prayer

Prayer is a foundation of our church, and it is important for your Life Group.

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. **2 CHRONICLES 7:14**

How to pray for your group:

- Pray for any requests group members share.
- Ask for the presence of the Holy Spirit in your group.
- Pray that God will open people's hearts to hear His truth.
 - Pray for authentic community to develop.
 - Pray for wisdom and strength to lead your group well.

Confidence as a Life Group Leader

If you only do what you feel comfortable doing, you don't need God. God's best is often found outside your comfort zone.

When you serve God and people by leading a Life Group, He will equip you and give you the strength and wisdom to lead well.

For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength. **PHILIPPIANS 4:13 NLT**

For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. **2 TIMOTHY 1:7 NLT**

When you feel uncertain about leading a group, use Scripture to overcome the lies of the enemy:

1. When you feel like you don't have the time, remember God has created you for this, and His timing is perfect.

If you wait for perfect conditions, you will never get anything done.

ECCLESIASTES 11:4 TLB

2. When you feel unqualified, remember God has equipped you.

It is not that we think we are qualified to do anything on our own. Our qualification comes from God. He has enabled us to be ministers of his new covenant.

2 CORINTHIANS 3:5-6 NLT

3. When you feel like your past disqualifies you, remember God uses imperfect people.

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. **2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-4***

When you feel like you don't know how to help someone in your group, remember ESPN:

E: Encourage

S: Share Scripture

P: Pray

N: Next Steps

Leadership Support

As a Life Group Leader, you are never alone in creating community. We have pastors, Elders, and the Life Group Coordinator who are all working alongside you to invest in great Life Groups at Kingdom Empowerment.