# February 4, 2018



#### IT'S NOT LIFE WITHOUT IT!

Matthew 18:20 (LB); 1 Timothy 3:15 (NCV)

TRUTH: Teams are vital to support, protect and encourage each other (Genesis 2:18 Msg).

**INSIGHT:** Whether you live single or you marry is irrelevant; the issue is that you need people in your life.

**TRUTH:** God is with a Life Group in a way He isn't in corporate worship (Matthew 18:20).

**TRUTH:** One nefarious lie Satan spreads is: "You don't need to be part of a church to live for God" (1 Timothy 3:15 NCV; Acts 2:46).

**TWO PROTOCOLS OF THE EARLY CHURCH:** Weekly large group worship and small group fellowship/Bible study.

**QUESTION:** What does a Life Group do?

# I. DIG INTO THE BIBLE (Acts 2:42 Msg).

**TRUTH:** If there's no Bible study, it's a club, not a Life Group. It's a clique, a party.

**INSIGHT:** Group Bible study meets a need that personal Bible study can't.

\*If you would be a LIFE GROUP "HOST":

- 1. Have a heart for people.
- 2. Open your home.
- 3. Serve something to drink (coffee/water).
- 4. Turn on a DVD if needed.

If that's you, let us know for future Life Group development. We can't keep building buildings; we need as much finances as possible to reach a lost Lufkin, Texas, America and the World... Life Groups meeting in homes is our future hope.

## II. DO ACTS OF LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER.

**INSIGHT:** Life Groups are laboratories of learning.

**TRUTH**: The number one purpose of your life is to learn how to love (Matt. 22:36-39).

**INSIGHT:** Loving God isn't enough.

**TRUTH**: Life Group is the best place to learn to love others.

**INSIGHT:** Love is only learned with people different from you.

**INSIGHT:** In every Life Group there are people who really get on your nerves! They're identified as EGR's = extra grace required people.

**TRUTH**: God put you in a group with someone like that, so you could learn to be gracious, kind and loving.

**TRUTH:** The Bible word for practicing love is fellowship.

## III. DIVE INTO A GOOD MEAL (Acts 2:42).

**INSIGHT:** Jesus did much of His ministry to the lost at food gatherings (Matthew 11:19).

## IV. DEVOTE TIME TO PRAYER (Matthew 18:19).

**INSIGHT:** I know through the years this church has prayed for me, but there are times I need you to pray over me.

### V. DETERMINE NO ONE IS LEFT BEHIND.

**TRUTH:** In Life Group, what I have is to be used to help another.

**TRUTH**: Helping others exercises the unselfishness muscle.

**INSIGHT:** God made each of us with abilities and blessings that can help others (1 Peter 4:10 LB).

**INVITATION:** Three attitudes that'll make Life Group explode:

- 1. Make group a priority.
- 2. Share with humility.
- 3. Respect other ideas.