



# Life Groups

Identifying A New Leader

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# Discovery Bible Study

2 Timothy 2:1-7

## 2 Timothy 2:1-7

2 You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, 2 and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also. 3 Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. 4 No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. 5 An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. 6 It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. 7 Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

## DBS Questions

1. What does this tell you about God?
2. What does this tell you about yourself and the world?
2. How will live this out?





# Life Groups

A Guide to Leading and Multiplying

## Discuss Around the Table.

1. On a scale from 1-10 how comfortable do you feel developing a new leader?
2. Have you ever developed a life group leader?
3. What are the benefits of developing new Life Group leaders for your group and for our church?



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# Begin with prayer

The first step in identifying a new leader



Before Jesus called his disciples, Luke tells us he spent the night in prayer; in the morning, he went down and selected from his disciples 12 Apostles. (Luke 6:12-16.) When you are trying to identify a co-leader for your Life Group or someone you can release to lead a new Life Group, begin with prayer.

When you are looking for a new leader, God is already at work preparing that individual. Prayer focuses your heart on what God is doing and gives you eyes to see who God is preparing.

**Take some time to pray on your own or in a group, and let the Spirit bring people to mind that you could invite to train to lead a Life Group.**



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# Leadership Identification Simplified

01. **Character**

02. **Chemistry**

03. **Coachable**

04. **Available**





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# Characteristics of Character

Don't sacrifice character for competency.



- 1. In the scriptures. (Psalm 1)**
- 2. Serve others rather than being served. (Phil 2:3-11)**
- 3. Follow the spiritual leadership of others. (Heb 13:17)**
- 4. Initiate forgiveness and reconciliation with others. (Matt 5:21-26)**
- 5. Keep their word. (Matt 5:33-37)**

*Modified from a CRU article on beginning and leading small groups. [Click Here](#) to view the original article.*



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# Chemistry

Everyone connects with different people.



Chemistry is essential when developing a new life group leader, as it builds the trust and rapport necessary for genuine connection and growth. When a leader connects well with others, they foster an environment where members feel valued, open to sharing, and eager to grow in their faith.

Equally important is the chemistry between the trainer and the trainee. A strong, trusting relationship allows the trainee to feel supported, confident, and more open to feedback, creating a safe space for learning and growth. This bond empowers the trainee to step into leadership with authenticity and assurance, knowing they have a mentor who truly understands and supports them.



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# Coachable

The best leaders are the most coachable leaders.



Having a coachable person is critical when developing a new Life Group leader, as it ensures a willingness to learn, adapt, and grow. A coachable leader is open to feedback, eager to gain new insights, and ready to stretch beyond their comfort zone, which is vital for both personal and group development. This attitude creates a strong foundation for discipleship, as they are willing to receive guidance and implement it for the group's benefit. Their openness fosters a culture of growth within the Life Group, encouraging members to model this teachable spirit in their own spiritual journeys.



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# Available

Is this a priority.

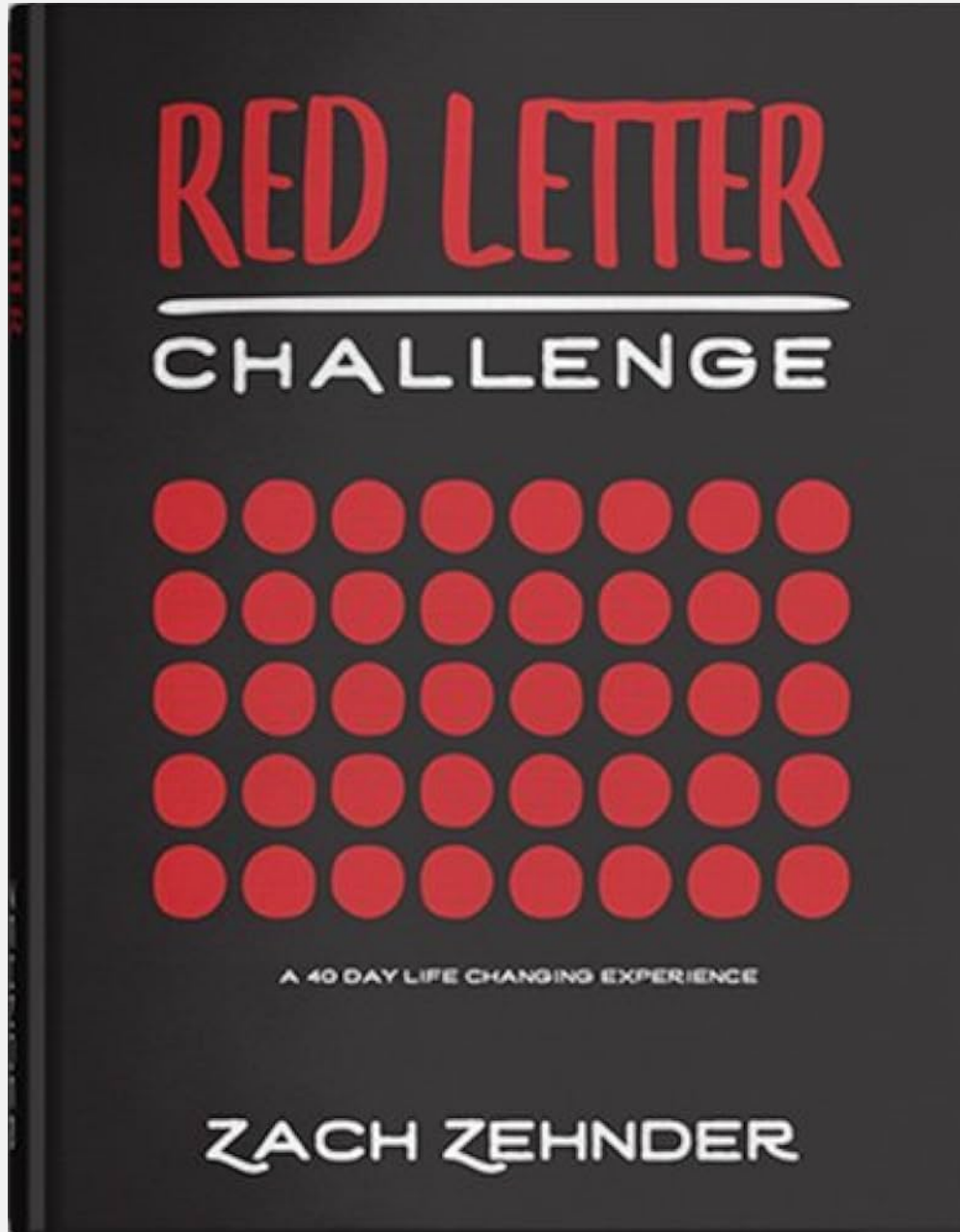


In today's over-scheduled, over-committed culture, developing new Life Group leaders can be challenging. You might find someone with the right character, coach-ability, and chemistry, but aligning schedules can be tough. Here are a few tips on managing availability:

**Work with the willing.** It's always easier to train someone who will prioritize development over someone who consistently needs chasing. Focus on those ready to commit time to growth and make it a calendar priority.

**A “no” now could be a “yes” later.** Life has seasons, and some are busier than others. Respect when someone says no due to current commitments; this often means when they eventually say yes, they'll be able to give their full attention and energy.





# Next Steps

1. Pray the spirit would put someone on your heart.
2. Ask them if they would be interested in learning how to lead a group.
3. Set aside time to connect.
4. Use Red Letter challenge to develop a new Life Group leader or co-leader.



# Life Group Mission Funds

How to apply and what you can apply for.



Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Reviewed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

## Oakville Group Mission Fund Application

*We see generations transformed by the gospel as disciples are multiplied in our homes, community, and beyond by joining Jesus on mission where we live, work, learn, and play.*

### Applicant Information

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### Group Information

Are you in a group? **IN** (Mark One) ☐ Life Group ☐ Rooted Group

Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Group Number (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

How long has your group been together: \_\_\_\_\_

Group members serving with you or holding you accountable for this event/project: \_\_\_\_\_

### Resources Requested

Amount Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount the individual or group is investing: \_\_\_\_\_

Other contributions (e.g. Donations in kind): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of volunteer hours expected: \_\_\_\_\_

### Event Information

Event type: (Mark One) ☐ Project ☐ 1 to 1 Matching Fundraiser

Organization or individual benefitting: \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you or your group had a relationship with this organization or individual? \_\_\_\_\_

What will you and/or your group be doing through this event to connect others to the extraordinary life found in Jesus? **OUT** \_\_\_\_\_

How are the funds to be used (party supplies, leaf bags, lunch for servants, gift cards\* ... )? \_\_\_\_\_

\*If you plan to purchase gift cards, type and amounts must be listed.

How will your spiritual life be inspired by this project? **UP** \_\_\_\_\_

### Policies

- Applicant requirements:
  - Member of a Faith Group
  - Active Faith family member
  - Application submitted and approval given before commitments made or money spent
- Each project must have an Up, In, and Out component (see aforementioned questions)
- Awards will be based on a variety of criteria including:
  - How long a group has been together
  - How long you have had a relationship with beneficiary
  - Funds awarded based on the event/project's alignment with Faith's Mission & Vision.
- All fund-raisers will be matched at a 1:1 ratio of proceeds raised (no funds will be given to hold a fundraiser)
- Reimbursement will follow project/event with appropriate form and itemized receipt(s).
- We are limited by the funds given and entrusted to us and we have to ask if this is good stewardship.
- Return completed form to: [connect@faithstl.org](mailto:connect@faithstl.org); Faith Oakville, ATTN: Katie Bixler, 6101 Telegraph Rd, St. Louis, MO 63129.

#### Inappropriate uses of funds

- Personal reimbursement
- Directly gifting seed money to a cause
- Purchase of items without a relational activity
- Cash or cash equivalent (ex. gift cards)
- Social gatherings without Gospel intent to others
- Alcohol, firearms/ammunition, and/or unlawful ways not in keeping with Faith values
- Combining Group Mission funds for one large project

### Definitions

**Donations In-kind:** contributions of goods or services, other than cash grants. Examples of in-kind gifts include:

**Goods**, like computers, software, furniture, and office equipment, for use by your organization or for special event auctions; **Services**, like meeting space, photocopy and mail services, and administrative/financial support; **Expertise**, like legal, tax, or business advice; marketing and website development; and strategic planning; **Cash equivalents**, like stocks, bonds, and mutual funds.

**Group Mission Fund:** Dollars set-aside for the purpose of funding missional activities of individuals and groups.

**Groups:** consist of Life Groups, Connect Groups, and Rooted groups.

**Individual:** an active Faith family member who is in a life group, connect group, or Rooted group.

**Life Group:** a group of people equipped, supported, and sent to live out the Gospel together as they get the life (UP), experience the life (IN), and give the life of Christ away (OUT) through individual or group missional activities.

**Missional Activity:** A project or event building relationships, serving the unreached, or supporting others allowing the opportunity to share the Gospel.

**Rooted Group:** a group of people who gather to journey through *The Rooted Experience* materials in hopes to transition into a Life Group, become a member of Faith, or strengthen the bonds of a Life Group.

Review Signature: \_\_\_\_\_