



CROSSBRIDGE
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Starting a New Lifegroup

It's important as you begin your new groups to share God's vision and values for what this new group is about and where it is going! Lifegroup is the Church and every time a new group starts, a new church is planted! We are a house church, a new lighthouse in a neighborhood to draw people to Jesus, grow his family and expand his kingdom.

Our goal is to create an environment where the Holy Spirit is present and people experience Jesus for themselves. We've found that the two key factors to a healthy and fruitful Lifegroup are:

1. The leader's spiritual health and abiding in Christ.
2. Consistency in your group meeting and functioning in the Vision each week.

Below is a progression to help you get going with momentum and consistency as the first few months are critical in establishing your group's culture.

For the new leader

1. Refresh your Vision by reading through the Lifegroup Leader Coaching Guide then process it with your Lifegroup Coach.
2. Pay close attention to the first six weeks as you set culture and norms while engaging new people into your group.
3. Talk one-on-one to the new core members as they step up and into more engaged roles within the group.
4. Ask the Lord to show you a potential next Lifegroup Leader. Invite him/her into a new disciple making relationship.

For the group

1. Spend time going over the Vision and Lifegroup Card discussing the Values, Flow, and Core. Do not assume.

2. Delegate and engage in shared leadership roles with everyone hosting right from the start.
3. Invite, invite, invite. A new Lifegroup is fertile ground for guests and creates space for new families to join your Lifegroup.
4. Follow this starting path for your group.

New CrossBridge Lifegroup Starting Path

Week 1: We're the Church

- Vision: Pass out the Lifegroup Cards and discuss.
- Core:
 - DBS: Acts 2:42-47
 - Practice: *Hearing the Lord*. Each person asks the Lord for his vision for the new church and a word, picture, or scripture for the new group. Share together.

Week 2: We're the Body of Christ

- Vision: Go over the three Values (Lifegroup card)
- Core:
 - DBS: 1 Corinthians 12:12-28
 - Practice: *Hearing the Lord*
 - Break into gender groups of three or four to share what the Lord spoke to each and pray. Close by connecting prayer partners to focus on throughout the upcoming week.
- Invite
 - New to CrossBridge: Come to the next Discover
 - All: Come to the next Hearing God seminar

Week 3: We're a kingdom of priests

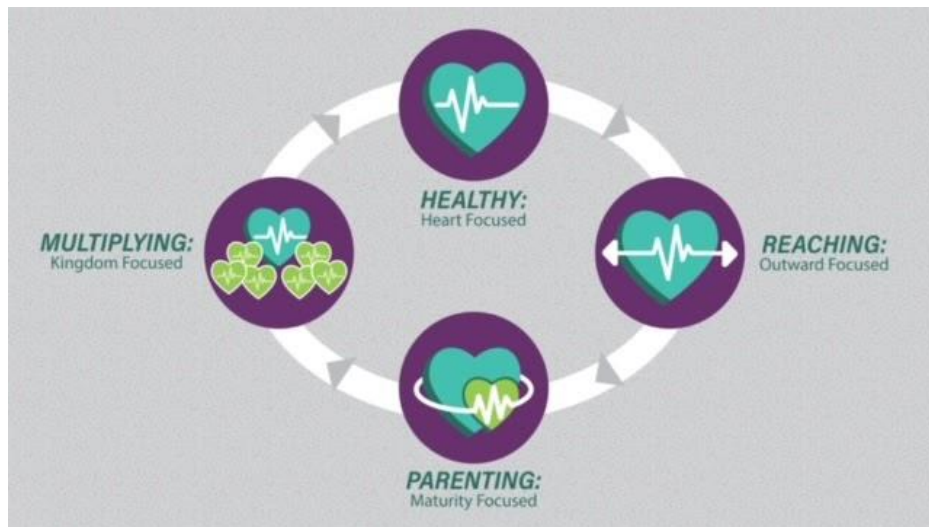
- Vision: Priests bring God to people and people to God (Exodus 19:6, 1 Peter 2:9-10)
- Core:
 - DBS: 1 Corinthians 14:3
 - Practice *Hearing the Lord for Encouraging Others*

Week 4: We're God's covenant community

- Vision: Go over the *Communion in Lifegroup* handout. (Leader website)
- Core:
 - DBS: 1 Corinthians 11:23-29
 - Practice *Hearing the Lord for Encouraging Others*
 - Have an extended time of worship, Communion, and ministry/prayer.
- Invite:
 - Jesus Hour
 - Sign up for Prophetic Prayer

Week 5: We're God's spiritual family

- Vision: Ephesians 2:19 and Lifegroup Culture Stages graphic
- Core:
 - DBS: Ephesians 3:14-21
 - Break into smaller groups of three or four to pray v. 16-18.
 - Practice *Talking with the Lord*



Week 6: We're God's ambassadors

- Vision: Ambassadors represent God to other people and build bridges of relationship. (iLOVE)
- Core:
 - DBS: 2 Corinthians 5:18-21
 - Practice *Talking About the Lord with Others* (do an *oikos* map)
- Invite:

- Kindle
- Speak to the vision for disciple making relationships

Week 7: We're freedom fighters

- Vision: Galatians 5:1
- Core:
 - DBS: 2 Corinthians 3:16-18
 - Practice *Hearing the Lord for Freedom* (Use the Discipling Freedom cards)
- Invite:
 - Freedom Day
 - Share a testimony of Freedom Prayer