

PRAYER ♦ CARE ♦ SHARE

Prayer

It is vital that we pray for unbelievers since it is God alone who opens the eyes of the unbeliever bringing conviction and salvation. Identify two or three people that you feel led to pray for who need Jesus' salvation. List their names below so that you pray for each of them weekly.

- ◆ _____
- ◆ _____
- ◆ _____
- ◆ _____
- ◆ _____
- ◆ _____

Scriptural Prayer Guide

Lord, I pray that you draw these people to Yourself.
(John 6:44)

I pray that they will seek to know You. (Acts 17:27)

I pray that they hear and believe the Word for what it really is. (1 Thess. 2:13)

I ask You to prevent Satan from blinding them to the truth. (2 Cor. 4:4; 2 Tim. 2:25-26)

I ask You to convict them of their sin and need for Christ's redemption. (John 16:7-14)

I ask that You open the door for me and/or others to share the Gospel with them. (Matt. 9:37-38)

Care

One of the best opportunities to be a testimony for Jesus and build a relationship with others is to look for occasions to appropriately **Care** for them. There are so many ways to meet real needs. We believe that many of these **Care** ideas and openings will flow out of our **Prayer** times as the Holy Spirit shows us what to do.

Share

Expect the Holy Spirit to give you and others opportunities to Share with people, and when these opportunities arise – to share with love and boldness. (Eph. 6:19)

Why Only Two or Three People?

River Valley is a church of Life Groups. These groups average about the same size as Jesus' main group... the twelve disciples. There are real benefits to this size of group, but DMGs are designed to accomplish what is more difficult in the larger group. It is recommended that DMGs form within and among the Life Group members. Here are several Biblical reasons why a smaller unit of two or three is a necessary compliment to the larger group when it comes to making and multiplying disciples.

Relationship (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12):

The best context for life-change is in the context of relationships. We need each other for strength and support. For most, it is difficult to have the kind of bond that can change lives with more than three people at any one time.

Accountability (Proverbs 27:17):

Few things in life get done without some degree of accountability. In the pursuit of godliness it's even more vital. The New Testament lists right around 30 "one-another" commands. There is no doubt we need one another to live the life Christ intends for us.

Confidentiality (James 5:16):

Confession of sin is needed for cleansing, healing, and preparation for a life of service, and a safe place is essential. Two or three others of your same gender, who know and care about you and who are also sharing their own struggles, provide as safe a place as one can find.

Flexibility (Matthew 18:20):

Two or three busy people can coordinate their schedules and meet almost anywhere.

Reproducibility (2 Timothy 2:2):

Simple things multiply more easily than complex things. Those who begin to seek Christ become candidates for Life Groups and new DMGs. Multiplication of the group can occur naturally and spontaneously.

DMG

Disciple-Making Groups



A small group of two or three men or women who meet together weekly for mutual encouragement and accountability for intentional spiritual growth

River Valley Church
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DMGs are...

A Disciple-Making Group (DMG) is a simple way of obeying Jesus' command to make and multiply disciples. The most essential elements of a growing spiritual walk are practiced by two or three people in a relational context.

DMGs...

◆ Meet Once a Week

Connect during the week for approximately one hour. It is recommended that DMGs form within each Life Group to help deepen the discipleship of the group and group members.

◆ Are Groups of Two or Three

Groups should seek to continue to add new members. The addition of a fourth person is the beginning of a second DMG once the fourth person has proven faithful to the group. The four persons become two groups of two – and the process leads to natural multiplication.

◆ Are Gender Specific (not co-ed)

◆ Require No Curriculum or Training

It doesn't even need a leader, just appoint a facilitator and follow the simple plan in this document.

Who Should Be In a DMG?

There are only two suggested qualifications for participating in a DMG...

1. A desperate need for Jesus
2. Faithfulness to the DMG members and process

DMG: Three Tasks...

1. Scripture is Read and Shared

- ◆ Commit to regular personal time in God's Word throughout the week
- ◆ Write down key verses and thoughts
 - Consider using the S.O.A.P. guideline explained in the *BIBLE READING JOURNAL*
- ◆ Share insights and applications
 - Consider all members reading the same section of scripture
- ◆ Seek to "stretch" yourselves on the amount of scripture read each week

2. Sin is Confessed in Mutual Accountability

- ◆ A safe place to be honest
- ◆ Receive prayer support/power
- ◆ Cover all of the questions (or as many as possible) each week (listed in next column). We encourage you to move quickly through the list of questions with each person participating and then, if necessary, taking time at the end to focus more deeply on any one question
- ◆ Everyone encouraged to answer
- ◆ We need one another (Heb. 10:24,25)

3. Specific & Regular Prayer for Souls

- ◆ Each member identifies 2-3 people whom the Lord has laid on their heart that need to be saved by Jesus
- ◆ Write these names in the **Prayer/Care/Share** section of this document
- ◆ Everyone prays throughout the week for those on the list
 - Consider using the scriptural prayer guide included to assist the process
- ◆ Seek to add these individuals to your Life Group and/or DMG



*As iron sharpens iron,
so one person sharpens another.*



DMG Questions

These questions are to be asked at the DMG meeting. They are to stimulate conversations of character and confession of sin in a safe environment which values honesty, confidentiality, and grace. *Remember, our victory comes not through self-sufficient moral striving, but only through trusting God and His resources that we already have because of Christ in us! Pleasing God is always a bi-product of trusting God (Heb. 11:6; Rom. 7:21-25; 2 Cor. 5:17; Col. 1:27).*

1. Have you been exposed to sexually-alluring or impure material or allowed your mind to entertain inappropriate lustful thoughts about another this week? Job 31:1; Eph. 5:3
2. Have you given into any sinful and/or addictive behavior this past week? (sins of the tongue, discontent/envy/coveting, laziness, selfishness, pride, worry, immodesty, people pleasing, etc.) Col. 3:5-10
3. Have you continued to remain angry, bitter, or cold towards another this week? Is there someone you need to forgive? Eph. 4:26-27, 31,32
4. Have you neglected to ask the forgiveness of someone you have hurt or wronged this week? James 5:16;
5. How have you spent your spare time this last week? Is there anything in your life this week that you have been more preoccupied with, or passionate about, than God? Eph. 5:15-17; Ex. 20:3
6. Were you prayerful and obedient with how you managed God's money and possessions this week? Luke 16:10-11
7. Were you faithful in your Bible reading and prayer this week? Share something God revealed to you, and how are you responding? 2Tim. 3:16-17
8. Did you pray for the unsaved on your prayer list this week? Did you have (and take) the opportunity to reach out to them (care, share, invite)? Col. 4:2-4
9. In what ways did you serve the Lord this week, in both formal and informal ways? Romans 12:11

For additional lists of questions, visit RiverValleycc.org/resources/ then select **Life Group Resources**