



RECAP

QUESTION 1

How have you seen people become more like Jesus through your group this year?

WHAT LEADERS SAID:

- Prayed consistently for one another weekly
- Supported friends through difficult health crises
- Shared struggles with greater vulnerability
- Carried burdens through challenging life seasons
- Welcomed new members quickly and warmly
- Served together through ministry opportunities
- Shared faith with friends and neighbors
- Extended grace during disagreements
- Applied Scripture more intentionally to life
- Built deeper community beyond weekly meeting

WHAT YOU CAN TRY:

- Send prayer updates throughout the week
- Create a meal train when needs arise
- Ask, "How can we help this week?"
- Invite members to share a recent conversation about Jesus
- Plan one serving opportunity this semester
- Celebrate examples of faithfulness
- Encourage members to care for one another directly

QUESTION 2

What has been most effective in helping people grow spiritually in your group?

WHAT LEADERS SAID:

- Leaders modeled vulnerability by sharing first
- Testimonies fostered trust & deeper connection
- Follow-up questions deepened discussion
- Prayer happened, not just prayer requests
- Smaller prayer groups increased participation
- Men and women discussed separately sometimes
- Shared leadership encouraged greater group ownership
- Silence created space for reflection and sharing
- Discussions emphasized practical life application

WHAT YOU CAN TRY:

- Start with: "Where have you seen God lately?"
- Let a different member lead once a month
- Share one testimony each meeting
- Ask one follow-up before moving on
- Reserve 15 minutes for prayer
- Break into groups of two-three or men and women
- Wait a few seconds before speaking
- End with one practical next step

QUESTION 3

What is the biggest barrier to your group experiencing spiritual growth?

WHAT LEADERS SAID:

- Attendance was inconsistent
- Homework often went unfinished
- Competing priorities hindered small group involvement and spiritual consistency
- Members want social time not deep discussion
- Accountability outside meetings was limited
- Comfort & complacency slowed spiritual growth
- Conversations remained surface-level
- Familiarity reduced meaningful engagement
- Unanswered prayers discouraged people

WHAT YOU CAN TRY:

- Set meeting dates a semester ahead
- Send reminders before group
- Share discussion questions early
- Add new members to your group
- Build margin into the schedule
- Plan occasional social gatherings
- Create smaller accountability groups
- Revisit difficult prayer requests regularly

QUESTION 4

What is the biggest challenge you face as a group leader?

WHAT LEADERS SAID:

- Drawing out quieter members
- Managing dominant talkers
- Finding adequate time for meeting preparation
- Following up consistently with group members
- Balancing leadership with family responsibilities
- Preventing care fatigue
- Keeping discussions focused and on schedule
- Navigating theological disagreements
- Helping newcomers connect more quickly
- Developing new leaders within the group

WHAT YOU CAN TRY:

- Ask quieter members first occasionally
- Use "let's hear from someone new"
- Share facilitation responsibilities
- Keep a list of follow-up needs
- Set realistic care expectations
- Designate a timekeeper
- Keep a list of unanswered questions
- Give potential leaders small opportunities

QUESTION 5

How can the Group Life team better encourage, equip, or support you as a leader?

WHAT LEADERS SAID:

- Leader lunches provide valuable encouragement and connection
- Training is appreciated
- Resource recommendations are needed
- Study guides remain useful leadership tools
- Personal check-ins give needed encouragement
- Earlier communication helps leaders plan ahead
- Learning from experienced leaders is valuable
- Guidance for developing new leaders helps
- More serving opportunities for groups requested

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INPUT!

Thank you for taking the time to share with us. We are grateful for your honesty and working through what we heard to identify ways we can better encourage, equip, & care for you. We will continue investing in leader lunches and personal check-ins while exploring new ways to connect leaders and make resources easier to access. We look forward to sharing more as these efforts develop!