



# LIFE GROUP LEADERSHIP TRAINING

"ZOOM" // SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD, 2019

1. **WELCOME** and thank them for being here. Vision out the importance of what they put in today is what they will get out. Explain any logistics and dismiss to rooms. (5 mins)
2. **MAIN POINT OF THE DAY:** To encourage and equip our leaders to be able to communicate and connect with people's stories in order to help them grow and take the next step in spiritual maturity.
3. **SMALL GROUP:** Share that generally we will be using the same guidelines as in group.
4. **INTRODUCTIONS/ICEBREAKER:** For people to get to know one another. (10 Minutes)
  - A. Have each person say their name, how long they have been part of Real Life, and how long they have been serving. When they are done answering, have them pick one "Would you Rather - Bible Edition" card from a hat and answer it.
5. **ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS:** (Facilitators setup: Make sure you have your Zoom binder and know the order of the story/pages it goes in.)
  - A. **Goal:** Simply to put the pages in sequential order.
  - B. **Playing:** Each of you is given a page but is not permitted to show it to anyone else. Without looking at each other's pages, everyone must put the pages in order, laying them face down on the ground. Once the page has been laid down, it may not be moved. We encourage you to study the details of the page so this will help you connect your pages. Once you are ready, you can begin the activity. You will have 15 minutes to put the pages in order. When you are done, turn the images over so that we can see if you got it right. If there are any mistakes, you can correct the order and then go through the correct sequence.
6. **PLAY:** Encourage people to communicate as the activity progresses, if necessary. (15 minutes)
7. **OBSERVATIONS:** Remember as you are observing them to see ways to tie this into disciple-making. We want them to discover through the questions—that the way they play the game often reveals who we are and how we lead.
  - A. **Individual** Observation:
    1. Observe how people started the activity.
    2. Observe who took charge first.
    3. Observe body language.
    4. Observe who was quiet during the activity and who was loudest.
    5. Observe what attitudes were contagious.
    6. Observe who seemed confused.
    7. Observe who genuinely wanted to play and who did not.
  - B. **Group** Observation:
    1. Observe: did they start with a plan or just jump right in? (common ground)
    2. Observe communication styles.
    3. Observe the roles people played.

4. Observe who asked questions and who didn't.
5. Observe who worked well together and who did not.
6. Observe who made problems and who had solutions.
7. Observe the group's overall personality. (quiet, loud, encouraging, critical, etc.)

**C. Activity Observation:**

1. Observe encouragement or criticism.
2. Observe over talking, cross talking, and talking over each other.
3. Observe what people did that helped or hindered.
4. Observe conflict.
5. Observe dominance.
6. Observe angst.
7. Observe honesty versus faking it.

**8. DEBRIEF (50-60 minutes):** Before you begin, focus the group on communication and connection (e.g. them as a group, life groups, and other environments they are in). We want you as the facilitator to tie in what you observed during the activity while you are asking questions. The Leader and Co-Leader will pick 3 or 4 questions from each section below. Questions with an asterisk (\*) direct back to the main point; we recommend asking some of these. Feel free to come up with your own questions about Communication and Connection, and don't be afraid to ask follow up questions!

**A. Introduction Questions:** Now that the pictures are in sequential order, ask your group:

1. Do you see the story? What is the story? (Let people define it. Have them get up, look at the story they created, and see how their small story connected together with the big story. Utilize the visual elements of Zoom/Re-Zoom when asking the following questions. Remember, this is where we are drawing parallels from the activity to Life Group and disciple-making.)

**B. Communication Questions:**

1. How did you decide where to start in the activity? What was communicated?
2. Can anyone give an example of when you thought you communicated effectively with someone else in the group?
3. How did you know what you communicated was understood? Consider different kinds of feedback (e.g. body language, eye contact, tone, etc.)
4. Was there a time where communication broke down? Explain your part.
5. Did anyone feel like they were trying to communicate and they were not heard?
6. What could the communicator do next time to give a clear message?
7. \*\*What does God's Word say about effective communication? (e.g. Colossians 4:6; James 1:19a; Proverbs 17:27, 25:11 [ESV]; 1 Peter 3:15)
8. \*What do you think your communication style is as a life group leader?
9. What are some different ways a life group can communicate?
10. How does your life group communicate?
11. Are there areas in your life group that you could communicate in a more clear way?
12. \*How do you help people communicate to build connection/relationship with each other? Connect their story with others—both inside and outside of life group, both during fellowship time and study time.

13. \*What common ground do you try to find with others?
14. \*What kinds of questions can bring out other peoples' stories? How does that help you be able to make better connections?
15. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ ?
16. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ ?
17. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ ?

**C. Connection Questions:**

1. How did you know which pictures went together?
2. How did you connect your picture with someone else's?
3. Did anybody notice any connections right off the bat? Or were the connections between the pictures hard for you to see?
4. Was too much or too little detail given?
5. Was it more challenging to describe your page or interpret what others were describing to connect your pictures together?
6. How did you decide you had connected all your pages in the right order to create a story?
7. Did everyone agree with the sequence? If not, did you have to compromise?
8. How do you connect your stories to others' stories in real life? How does understanding people's stories help you connect with them?
9. \*\*Why do you connect with others? What does scripture say about connecting with others? (e.g. John 13:35; Matthew 4:19; 2 Corinthians 5:18-19; Acts 2:46-47 )
10. How do you identify different connections in your own life group?
11. What biases can get in the way of seeing people's stories? Why does having those biases make it hard to connect with them or help them connect with others?
12. \*What is your tendency to look for people to connect with? Share a time you felt intimidated to make a connection.
13. \*Has there been a time in your life when someone connected with you and your story? How did that impact you?
14. \*How do you help connect other people's stories to God's word? What does that look like in your life group?
15. \*How do you connect with other people outside of your life group? (the unconnected) How do you encourage your people to connect with people's stories in their everyday lives?
16. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ ?
17. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ ?
18. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ ?

**D. Landing the Plane:** (As your group wraps up, please end with this question. Allow your group to take some time to process any last thoughts.)

1. **\*\***What are some takeaways from today that will help you communicate/connect with others' stories?

**9. Q/A** (if time - 10 mins): (If there is time at the end, feel free to go over these last 3 questions as a check-in for the leaders.)

1. What is going well in your own personal group?
2. What is not going well?
3. What do you need from your leadership team in this season?

**10. LARGE GROUP** Vision/Charge/Finish Strong (15 mins): (Please make sure your group is back in the auditorium promptly at 3:15. It's ok to leave them still processing the activity and questions.)