

Bible Study
12 Biblical Reasons Why We Do Life
Groups

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December 2021

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BIBLE STUDY

12 BIBLICAL REASONS WHY WE DO LIFE GROUPS

⁴² The believers spent their time listening to the teaching of the apostles. They shared everything with each other. They ate together and prayed together. ⁴³ Many wonders and miraculous signs were happening through the apostles, and everyone felt great respect for God. ⁴⁴ All the believers stayed together and shared everything. ⁴⁵ They sold their land and the things they owned. Then they divided the money and gave it to those who needed it. ⁴⁶ The believers shared a common purpose, and every day they spent much of their time together in the Temple area. They also ate together in their homes. They were happy to share their food and ate with joyful hearts. ⁴⁷ The believers praised God and were respected by all the people. More and more people were being saved every day, and the Lord was adding them to their group. - Acts 2:42-47

1. LIFE GROUPS promote the Bible

- The believers spent their time listening to the teaching of the apostles. - V.42a
- In a Life Group, we can learn more about the Bible, we can dig deeper into the principles and revelations shared on the pulpit.

2. LIFE GROUPS promote Fellowship

- They shared everything with each other. They ate together and prayed together. V.42b
- They also ate together in their homes. They were happy to share their food and ate with joyful hearts. - V.46d
- Life Groups are a place of fellowship, of really getting to know one another, to get intimate with people, to do life together, that's what LGs are all about.

3. LIFE GROUPS create an atmosphere for Miracles

- Many wonders and miraculous signs were happening through the apostles. - V.43a
- In a Life Group context, I can come in agreement with my brothers and sisters who love the Lord, and together we can grow in faith. We can pray for each other's needs, even for healing and miracles. Praying for the sick and performing miracles were not only for the apostles. They were only the precursors of the Christian faith. They were never meant to be the bottleneck and eventually the cork for miracles, but the precursors of a worldwide miraculous movement which is the Christian faith. As we pray for each other with the laying on of hands we allow God to use us as a channel for his miracle-working power.

4. LIFE GROUPS glorify God

- And everyone felt great respect (amazement) for God. - V.43b
- Life Groups bring glory to God's name. When people in your Life Group start to see God moving, that will create faith and admiration in their hearts for God. They will see what He is doing and they will glorify His holy name.

5. LIFE GROUPS promote Unity

- All the believers stayed together and shared everything. - V.44

There is a song from the 70s that says:

*"For united we stand
Divided we fall
And if our backs should ever be against the wall
We'll be together, together, you and I
For united we stand
Divided we fall"*

- This is very true. Ecclesiastes 4:9 says that it's better to be two than one for if one falls the other can help him get back up again. Together we can better go through the trials and storms of life. Together we can conquer our fears and resist the enemy. God is all about unity. Even God is three in one. In Life Groups we get to live and experience this unity on an up-close and personal level.

6. LIFE GROUPS promote Generosity

- They sold their land and the things they owned. Then they divided the money and gave it to those who needed it. - V.45
- In Life Groups we get to share our needs with people we love and trust and we give them a chance to express their generosity toward us in times of need. We also can get together to meet the needs of others close to us. Family members, friends, and even people in town that we may know who are going through a rough time can experience the love of God through our actions as we come together as a group to visit them, to love on them, and to meet their needs.

7. LIFE GROUPS gives life a divine Purpose

- The believers shared a common purpose - V.46a
- Have you ever wondered why are you here on Earth? Have you ever asked yourself what is the purpose of your life? Well, in Life Groups we get to experience our God-given earthly assignment. We get to love on people and help them to navigate through life. There is nothing better in life than to feel that God is using you. To be in the center of His will, listening and obeying his commands.

8. LIFE GROUPS generate Intimacy

- (...) and every day they spent much of their time together - V.46b
- Intimacy should be like an onion, the further you get in the more you cry. You can't just give your intimacy to anyone, to a stranger you met on the street. Your heart is precious and your intimacy invaluable. Only those who pay the price for it should earn it. I said, "*earn*". That's right. Intimacy is earned, not given away. And God wants us to be intimate with one another. But how can we be intimate in a large group setting? You can't. It's not practical, it's not real. But in a Life Group, we get to know people on a more personal level. We get to do life with them. We spend more time with them and so we get to know them better. We go through storms together and we become intimate friends. That's what Life Groups should be all about. Not just a place you go even now and then, but a group of people who spend time together, who grow in the love of Christ, who share their struggles and their victories, who grow together in the commandment of Christ to love one another.

9. LIFE GROUPS consolidate commitment to the local church

- (...) together in the Temple area - V.46ac
- When you become a part of a Life Group, the church is no longer just a place you go to, it becomes a group of people you love. Life Groups naturally generate commitment in members because in the small group context they commit to each other. Connection generates Commitment. At the Life Groups people feel emotionally connected to other people and this connection generates commitment.

10. LIFE GROUPS promote Worship

- The believers praised God - V.47a
- The believers in the Early Church got together in small groups and they praised God. When we get together in Life Groups we share with each other and we praise God for all that he is doing in our lives.

11. LIFE GROUPS promote respect among the community

- (...) and were respected by all the people. - V.47b
- As we gather together in our Life Group we grow spiritually and we become better people, better husbands, better wives, better parents, better teachers, better and more honest businesspeople, etc. The community is blessed by the culture of Heaven established on Earth by Godly people.

12. LIFE GROUPS promote church growth

- More and more people were being saved every day, and the Lord was adding them to their group. - V.47c
- There is no better way of growing the church than through Life Groups. Pastor Paul Young Cho, who is now in Heaven, was once the pastor of the largest church in South Korea with over one million members. He was one of the first pastors to use the small group model in his church back in the 80s. Pastor Rick Warren from Saddleback Church in the USA also planted a church based on the small group model back in the 80s. His church flourished to become one of the largest churches in the USA. All over the world there are proven examples of churches that experienced exponential growth through Life Groups.
- Life Groups also promote spiritual growth and maturity in the church members because they connect people, generate accountability, encourage people to step out and share, improve their confidence and boldness and help people grow at every level of their lives.