



Dear LifeGroup Leader,

I want you to keep a date in mind: 8/26/18. It's a Sunday afternoon, and it will be vitally important for the life of our church.

We're planning a church-wide volunteer kick-off. This will be a chance for LifeGroup leaders (among other roles) to come and be energized. Dave will give some teaching, we'll talk together about important aspects of your ministry, and I'd like to say a few words to you as well.

Could I ask a few things of you?

1. Could you plan on being there on 8/26?
2. Could you identify ONE person who you think might be interested in leading a group? We especially need LifeGroup leaders for young families. They don't need to have led before, they just need to be hospitable! Think of ONE person and invite them to come! Your personal invitation could get them involved and provide community for many families who need it!

-Connor



The Heart of Worship

The Mature Heart of Worship

Worship involves much more than singing songs or prayer. Worship, we're told by Paul, involves offering our bodies as "living sacrifices". Larger than any isolated deed, worship involves the intentional act of living a life with divine purpose. Maribel Leyland's story of working in community teaches us that service isn't about fulfilling a position, it's about making a dream a reality. It's about putting skin and bones to God's Kingdom in our own neighborhood. Among other ways, we can do this through hospitality - our invitation to welcome others with care.

FOCAL POINT: Service makes God's Kingdom tangible.



Getting Started

Catch up together about how your week has been, possibly also revisit last week's meeting.

- ▶ What's the worst thing you've volunteered for? What made it hard?



Exploring Scripture

Read the following passage together.

Romans 12:11-13

- ▶ Where do you hear God's heart in this passage?
- ▶ What words or phrases stick out to you?



Reflection

Take time to reflect together about the passage.

- ▶ Paul seems to be encouraging a church who might feel exhausted and tired. If you were the recipient of this message, what parts would feel encouraging to you? What parts would feel overwhelming?



Praxis

With the understanding that we gathered here are the body of Christ, let's allow the truth from today's scripture to impact us as a LifeGroup.

- ▶ We've been talking recently about thinking through our service commitments as a LifeGroup. God calls us not individually, but also communally to serve together. Why? Because, as shared in this passage, service can be exhausting, and it can give us new strength and connection to serve together!
- ▶ Let's check in with where our LifeGroup is at with serving together. What commitments have we made together to serve?
- ▶ Think back on times when we served in some way together - what was that like for you? If we were to do it again, what would you want to do differently, and what would you want more of?



Moving Outward

Challenge each other to live out God's truth this week.

- ▶ Sometimes we might feel unclear about where God's Spirit might be moving us. Visit <https://montrosechurch.org/connect/> to get an idea of the ways we're working together as a community. As a LifeGroup you might even consider writing a card to a ministry leader, or playing with kids on the playground on Sundays, or arranging a visit to STARS to support the work we do with higher-risk kids in Pasadena. There is a perfect role for you individually, and as a LifeGroup. Get involved!

Romans 12:11-13

Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.