

**WEEK 1: INTRO & WELCOME
TO LIFEGROUPS**



New Hope Church

TOUGH QUESTIONS

WEEK 1

ICEBREAKER

“Navigating Faith Together”

Instructions:

1. Distribute a pen and a piece of paper to each member.
2. Ask everyone to write their name on the paper and answer the following questions in bullet points:
 - Describe a moment when a question about Christianity challenged you.
 - Share a Bible verse or Christian teaching that has significantly impacted your life.
 - What resource (book, person, sermon, etc.) has helped you answer tough questions about your faith?
 - Share a topic or question about Christianity you hope to explore with this group.
 - How do you hope this group will help you grow in your faith
3. Collect the papers and shuffle them.
4. Distribute one paper to each member, ensuring no one receives their own paper.
5. Give them 5 minutes to read the answers and reflect on the shared experiences and expectations.
6. After 5 minutes, invite volunteers to share the responses on the sheet they received, and guess who may have written it.
7. The person whose answers are being shared can stand up and share any additional thoughts if they wish.

Purpose: The aim of this icebreaker is to create a supportive atmosphere where members can openly share and explore tough questions about Christianity together, getting to know each other's faith journey and expectations from the LifeGroup.

Video:

What did Pastor Tom say were the two significant things people need to grow in their relationship with Christ?

1. _____

2. _____

Question?

- How can LifeGroups encourage each other to grow in their faith and spiritual journey?
- What are some practical ways for LifeGroups to support and encourage each other during difficult times?
- As a LifeGroup, what are some ways you can commit to living in community over the next 12 weeks?

As we journey through the tough questions let's explore a few questions as a LifeGroup.

1. Have you ever encountered a question about Christianity that was difficult for you to answer? How did you navigate through that situation and were there any resources or individuals who helped you in forming a response?
2. How can Christians effectively engage with skepticism or doubt, either from within the community or from outside individuals, in a manner that fosters understanding and respectful dialogue?

Engaging in discussions and answering questions about Christianity is not merely an evangelic duty, but a process that enriches an individual's faith, promotes understanding, and nurtures a vibrant, resilient community.

Equipping ourselves to engage in discussions and answer questions about Christianity is an enriching endeavor that not only adheres to scriptural encouragement but also fosters personal growth and building community.

SETTING UP YOUR LIFEGROUP

During the First Meeting everyone in your group will have the chance to review the LifeGroup Agreement and fill out a copy of the LifeGroup Planner (provided). These tools will help keep your group on track.

The LifeGroup Agreement: This tool helps define values, logistics, and purpose.
The LifeGroup Planner: This tool is a calendar and helps get members involved.

- o Refreshments (everyone can bring something)
- o Host (opens their home for group meetings)
- o Facilitator (guides discussion)
- o Prayer (leads group prayer and sends out weekly prayer requests)
- o Micro-Mission (helps coordinate a group service project)

Take a few minutes and fill out the following:

LifeGroup Planner (included below)

LifeGroup Agreement (included below – leader should print items out ahead of time).

Your LifeGroup Roster (included below)

LIFE GROUP PLANNER

Week Date	Who is Facilitating?	Where Are We Meeting?	What Are We Doing?	What About Refreshments	How About Childcare?
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					

LifeGroup Agreement

Being part of a Small Group offers the right environment to belong, grow, and serve with your church family. Below are the shared values and expectations for each group member. Review the agreement every time you begin a new study.

We agree to the following values:

Community: We will prioritize building relationships and helping one another to grow spiritually.

Authenticity: We will strive for openness and honesty in our conversations.

Confidentiality: We will keep personal information shared by others within the group and refrain from gossip.

Respect: We will help create a safe place where members are heard without fear of condemnation. We can disagree but will not be argumentative.

Availability: We will make attending the group a priority.

Involvement: We will seek to use our gifts, talents and resources within the group by sharing all group tasks.

Service: We will seek ways as a group to meet as needs in the community.

We agree to the following logistics:

Day we will meet: _____

Place we will meet: _____

Time we will start: _____ Time we will finish: _____

Refreshments: _____

Child-care: _____

Other: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____



LifeGroups
Do Life Together