

Strategic Prayer Focus

Identify two or three people in your sphere of influence that you believe desperately need Jesus. List their names below so that you pray for each of them weekly.

1. Lord, I pray that you draw these to Yourself. (John 6:44)
2. I pray that they will seek to know You. (Acts 17:27)
3. I pray that they hear and believe the Word for what it really is. (I Thes. 2:13)
4. I ask You to prevent Satan from blinding them to the truth. (II Cor. 4:4; II Tim. 2:25-26)
5. Holy Spirit, I ask You to convict them of their sin and need for Christ's redemption. (John 16:7-14)
6. I ask that You send someone who will share the Gospel with them. (Matt. 9:37-38)
7. I pray that they would put all of their trust in Christ. (John 1:12; 5:24)
8. I pray that they confess Christ as Lord and grow in faith and bear fruit for Your glory. (Rom. 10:9-10)



Character Conversation Questions

These questions can stimulate character building conversations and confession of sin in the safe environment of honesty, vulnerability, confidentiality, and forgiveness. Close your time with prayer for one another's growth in these areas.

1. Have you been a testimony this week to the greatness of Jesus Christ with both your words and actions?
2. Have you been exposed to sexually alluring material or dishonored another with sexual thoughts this week?
3. Has the desire for money, material possessions, or status at any time controlled your thoughts, conversations, or behavior?
4. Have you damaged another person by words, either behind their back or face to face?
5. Have you been honoring, understanding, and generous in important relationships this week?
6. Have you given in to an addictive behavior this past week?
7. Have you continued to remain angry toward another?
8. Have you secretly wished for another's misfortune so that you might excel?
9. Did you finish the scripture reading and hear from God? What are you going to do about it?
10. Have you been completely honest with me?
11. _____
(Your personalized accountability question)



Life Transformation Groups



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Life Transformation Groups are...

A Life Transformation Group is a way of obeying Jesus' command to make and multiply disciples without relying on gifted leaders. Two or three people who desire to grow in Christ can hear from God through prayer and scripture reading. They can encourage and support one another in obeying what they hear from God. They can also agree in prayer for salvation of loved ones.

A Life Transformation Group typically meets once a week for an hour. It is gender specific (not co-ed), requires no curriculum or special training, and doesn't need a leader. Its members mainly do three things:

1. Confess sin to one another in mutual accountability
2. Read scripture
3. Pray for people desperately needing Christ

Qualifications for participating in a Life Transformation Group:

- Desire to know Jesus more intimately
- Faithfulness to the group

Why Two or Three?

1. **Relationship** (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12): Life change does not happen in a vacuum; it happens in relationship with others. For most, it is difficult to have the kind of close-knit bond that can change lives with more than three people at any one time. The best context for life-changing community is in a group of two or three.
2. **Accountability** (1 Timothy 5:19): Few things in life get done without some degree of accountability. In the pursuit of godliness we need accountability to one another. It's hard to be accountable to more than two or three people at a time. We can find support with a small group who knows and understands our life.
3. **Confidentiality** (Matthew 18:15-17): Confession of sin is needed for cleansing, healing, and preparation for a life of service, and a safe place is essential. Two or three others of your same gender, who know and care about you and who are also sharing their own struggles, provide as safe a place as one can find.
4. **Flexibility** (Matthew 18:20): Two or three busy people can coordinate their schedules and meet almost anywhere.
5. **Reproducibility** (2 Timothy 2:2): Simple things multiply more easily than complex things. If we learn to multiply this basic unit of the church, we have a better chance to multiply more complex cell groups, ministries, and congregations.

Three Tasks of a Life Transformation Group

1. **Sin is confessed to one another in mutual accountability.** These accountability questions are to be asked of one another in a weekly meeting that values honesty, confidentiality, and integrity (Proverbs 27:17, James 5:16, Galatians 6:1-5). Because it is easy to lose time talking about other things, the meetings start with the Character Conversation Questions (see back panel). Each person is given time to answer a question before moving on to the next question. The others listen and avoid trying to "fix it." Pray for one another.
2. **Scripture is read in entire context and in community.** Using your Life Journal, read the scriptures suggested and record special insights from the Lord. The goal of the reading is not intense study; it is to hear from God and do what He says, for this is the definition of faith.
3. **People who desperately need Jesus are prayed for strategically, specifically, and continuously.** Each member of the Group is to identify two or three people in their sphere of influence who need Jesus. These people are prayed for throughout the week.

Those who begin to seek Christ become candidates for new Life Transformation Groups. Multiplication of the group can occur naturally and spontaneously—and in a way that the whole group can celebrate together.

Alternative Life Transformation Group Accountability Questions:

John Wesley's Small Group Meeting Questions:

1. What known sins have you committed since our last meeting?
2. What temptations have you met with?
3. How were you delivered?
4. What have you thought, said or done, of which you doubt whether it be sin or not?
5. Have you nothing you desire to keep secret?

(On the point of confessing sin to another person we need to listen to the counsel of Ellen White: "In many of our religions awakenings mistakes have been made in regard to confession. While confession is good for the soul, there is need of moving wisely. I have been shown that many, many confessions should never be spoken in the hearing of mortals; for the result is that which the limited judgment of finite beings does not anticipate. Seeds of evil are scattered in the minds and hearts of those who hear, and when they are under temptation, these seeds will spring up and bear fruit, and the same sad experience will be repeated. For, think the tempted ones, these sins cannot be so very grievous; for did not those who have made confession, Christians of long standing, do these very things? Thus the open confession in the church of these secret sins will prove a savor of death rather than of life." 5T 645.2. In the case of a discipleship group – one or two people should build a level of trust and confidence before they are able to "bare one another's burdens" in matters of confessing sin. Ellen White goes on to say "There are confessions of a nature that should be brought before a select few and acknowledged by the sinner in deepest humility." 5T 645.3)

A. A simplified list of questions

1. How have you experienced God in your life this week?
2. What is God teaching you?
3. How are you responding to His prompting?
4. Do you have a need to confess any sin?
5. How did you do with your reading this week?

B. Adaptation to the original LTG questions

1. Did I invest the proper quality/quantity of time in my most important relationships?
2. Did my life reflect verbal integrity?
3. Did I express a forgiving attitude toward others?
4. Did I practice undisciplined or addictive behavior?
5. Was I honorable in my financial dealings?
6. Was I sexually pure?
7. Did I spend time with the Lord this week, completing the Bible reading for the week?
8. Did I pray for my pre-Christian friends? Did I talk with someone about Christ?

C. For those wanting more Scripture based growth questions

1. What have the Scriptures revealed in your life this week:
 - In terms of specific sinful behavior?
 - In terms of specific sinful thoughts?
 - In terms of specific sinful words?
2. What errors or lies that you once believed have now been corrected by your reading of the Scriptures?
3. What encouragement have the Scriptures given you in your daily walk?
4. What do you need to ask the Spirit of God to reveal to you that you have not yet understood?

D. For Youth and Children

1. How have your actions and words shown others that you love Jesus?
2. How have you been respectful to your parents and the adults around you this week?
3. How have you loved others even when you didn't feel like it?
4. In what ways have you been angry or frustrated this week because you didn't get something that you wanted or didn't get your way?
5. How have you seen God answer your prayers this past week?
6. In what ways have you taken anything that does not belong to you this week?
7. In what ways have you not told the truth this week?
8. In what ways have you been mean to others this week?
9. In what ways have you not completed the responsibilities you have been given?
10. Have you finished your Bible reading? What did you learn?

E. A more generic list

1. What is the condition of your soul?
2. What sin do you need to confess?
3. What have you held back from God that you need to surrender?
4. Is there anything that has dampened your zeal for Christ?
5. Who have you talked with about Christ this week?

F. A list for newer Christians

1. What worries or other issues are you currently facing?
2. Is there an area that God is working on in your life or any sin that you would like to pray about?
3. For what non-Christian friends can we pray?
4. In your reading of the Bible: Who is God? What does He expect of you? What do you think He is saying to you? How do you think you should respond?

G. The most simplified and basic questions

1. What is God telling you to do?
2. What are you going to do about it?

Life Transformation Groups

1. **Meet once a week for approximately 1 hour**
2. **Groups of only 2 - 4 (When 4 or 5 break into 2 groups)**
3. **The groups are not co-ed.**
4. **There is no curriculum**
5. **There is no leader, only a facilitator (take turns)**
6. **They read Scripture: 1 chapter a week, 5 Xs**
The group moves on to the next chapter when everyone has completed the assigned reading in the same week.
7. **They ask accountability questions**

MEN'S ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL INTEGRITY

"A man who is not in a group with other men is an accident waiting to happen." Dr. Howard Hendricks

These *Accountability Questions* are to be asked of one another in a weekly meeting of accountability which values honesty, confidentiality and integrity (Prov 27:17; James 5:16; Gal 6:1-5). These questions are only as helpful as you are willing to be honest and vulnerable. This takes time, so be patient.

1. Have you been a verbal testimony this week to the supremacy of the Lord Jesus Christ? Has your speech honored God this week?
2. Have you been in a compromising situation with a member of the opposite sex any where this past week, or exposed yourself to sexually explicit material?
3. Have you lacked any integrity in your financial dealings? Have you spent money recklessly?
4. Have you given priority time to your family? Have you honored your wife and children? (If single: have you honored your friends and parents?)
5. Have you damaged another person by your words, either behind their back or face to face?
6. Have you succumbed to a personal addiction? Explain:
7. Have you continued to remain angry, bitter or hold a grudge toward someone?
8. Have you secretly wished for another's misfortune so that you might excel or wished another ill?
9. Accountability question of your choice:
10. Have you just lied to me/us?

"Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed." James 5:16

WOMEN'S ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL INTEGRITY

These *Accountability Questions* are to be asked of one another in a weekly meeting of accountability which values honesty, confidentiality and integrity (Prov 27:17; James 5:16; Gal 6:1-5). These questions are only as helpful as you are willing to be honest and vulnerable. Your weekly meeting must be a safe place for sharing.

1. Have you been a verbal testimony this week to the supremacy of the Lord Jesus Christ? Has your speech honored God this week?
2. Have you been in a compromising situation with a member of the opposite sex any where this past week, fantasized a romantic relationship or read or seen any sexually alluring material?
3. Have you lacked any integrity in your financial dealings? Have you spent money recklessly?
4. Have you given priority time to your family? Have you honored your husband and children? (If single: have you honored your friends and parents?)
5. Have you damaged another person by your words, either behind their back or face to face?
6. Have you succumbed to a personal addiction? Explain:
7. Have you continued to remain angry, bitter or hold a grudge toward someone?
8. Have you secretly wished for another's misfortune so that you might excel or wished another ill?
9. Accountability question of your choice:
10. Have you been completely truthful with me/us?

"Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed." James 5:16

Discipleship Resources

For use with new Christians

Basic Bible Studies in Everyday English, by Charles “Chic” Shaver. Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City.

New Believer’s Guide to Effective Christian Living, by Greg Laurie. Tyndale House.

New Believer’s Series, by Watchman Nee. Living Stream Ministry

Now That You’re Saved, by Lyle Pointer. Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City.

What Every Christian ought to Know, by Richard S. Taylor. Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City.