MISSION HILLS CHURCH

CORE VALUES FOR LIFE GROUPS

This document describes how the Mission Hills Church core values are lived out in the context of Life Groups. This serves as both a reference and curriculum for Life Groups to walk through together as we become like Jesus and join him on mission.

WHY THIS GUIDE?

This curriculum gives you a chance to explore each core value within the contexts of your Life Group and your personal faith journey. Each week, you will discover practical steps to become like Jesus and join him on mission.

Our core values:

At Mission Hills, we are a crazy generous, daringly creative, intentionally improving, Bible driven, kingdom minded tribe.

How they're ordered:

If you look at the order of our core values, you'll notice something intentional. The first five describe the last one: Tribe.

Each value matters on its own, but together they show what it looks like to follow Jesus in community. That's why we will take a look at these values in reverse order: beginning with what it means to live in community, as a tribe, and then exploring week-by-week how each characteristic makes up the culture of our church.

HOW DO I USE THIS GUIDE?

Each session follows the same simple pattern. Read through the content together, then walk through discussion questions. Here's how to get the most out of each section:

Core value + tagline + scripture

Each week highlights one core value and its official tagline. Below that, you'll find a Bible verse that shows where this value is rooted in Scripture.

Teaching points

Every session has two short teaching points drawn from the tagline and Scripture. Read them as a group and note what stands out to you.

Practical tips

After each teaching point, you'll see two practical ways to live it out. Some can be done throughout the week, others you can try together during group time. If it seems right, feel free to pause and practice one before moving to the next section.

Discussion questions

Wrap up by talking through the questions designed to help you live out that week's value. Plan to spend most of your time here. The last question each week invites you to connect the core value with weekend messages and broader church life. For new groups, this also serves as preview of the sermon-based discussion questions your Life Group will use once this curriculum is complete.

TRIBE

We do together what is too big to pursue alone.

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another." — Hebrews 10:24-25

Build trust – Galatians 6:2

Authenticity and vulnerability are essential to a thriving, Christ-centered community. We can't expect others to speak into our lives if we aren't willing to open up about what's really going on. One of the most beautiful parts of community is sharing one another's burdens and walking through life together. Building that kind of trust takes time, but it grows through integrity, honesty and sincere commitment to love one another well.

PRACTICAL TIPS

- As you get to know one another, leave time in your Life Group for people to share their story.
- There is some risk involved in being vulnerable but consider the reward. Be willing to open up first and see what God can do.

Prioritize community – Hebrews 10:24-25

Life Groups make our large church feel smaller. They're designed to be places of community, belonging, care, and counsel. Places where you commit to walking through life with others. True community requires commitment, and that commitment should shape your calendar.

TRIBE (CONTINUED)

We schedule first what matters most. Make Life Group a priority and build the rest around it. None of us are wise or strong enough to face life alone. God designed us for community to sharpen, strengthen, and encourage one another.

PRACTICAL TIPS

- Schedule Life Group first and only miss it for the same reasons you would miss work.
- Be in it for the long haul. If you struggle in seasons to connect with some, proceed with patience and ask God to build stronger bonds.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean for our Life Group to be a tribe?
2. How can our Life Group be more than just a social club or a Bible study? How can we build a community that lasts?
3. What changes do you need to make to your personal calendar in order to make Life Group a priority?
4. What can we do as a group to have fun and build friendships?
5. How do you see the value of being a tribe reflected in the teaching and culture of Mission Hills?

KINGDOM MINDED

We are all about accomplishing God's mission in the world.

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."
– Matthew 6:33

Serve together – 1 Peter 4:10

Living with God's Kingdom at the forefront of our minds means actively joining him on mission through both evangelism and service. Every Life Group is encouraged to serve together at least once per semester, advancing God's Kingdom while strengthening group unity and community. Serving doesn't have to be extravagant. It can be simple, creative, and meaningful.

PRACTICAL TIPS

- Get to know your neighbors, find their needs, and see if you can go as a group to serve them together.
- Use the "Serve on Mission" website to find opportunities for your group to serve together.

Grow your gifts – Romans 12:6-8

Know and grow your strengths. What are you good at? What do you bring to the body of Christ? Each of us have been uniquely gifted to advance God's Kingdom. How can you use your gifts for his purposes?

KINGDOM MINDED (CONTINUED)

If you're unsure of what your gifting may be, invite your Life Group to speak into what strengths they see in you. Likewise, encourage others by affirming the strengths you've observed in them.

PRACTICAL TIPS

- Share with your group what you believe your strengths to be. Have them affirm or correct your observations.
- Find ways to serve each other and serve others based on your strengths.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean for our Life Group to be Kingdom minded?
2. What does it practically look like for our Life Group to seek God's Kingdom first? How can we grow in this area individually or as a group?
3. How can our group serve together this semester?
4. What are we practically doing to advance the Kingdom of God in our spheres of influence?
5. How do you see the value of being kingdom minded reflected in the teaching and culture of Mission Hills?

BIBLE DRIVEN

We are compelled by the powerful truth of God's Word.

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." – 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Build a foundation – Matthew 7:24-25

The powerful truth of God's Word compels us and builds a foundation to live on. Scripture serves as the lens in which we make decisions and council others. Every part of our lives falls under the authority of God's Word.
The Bible should drive the practices and principles of your Life Group.

PRACTICAL TIPS

- When giving advice ask first, "what does the Bible say about this?".
- Dig into the Bible each time you meet as a Life Group and reflect on what it says.
- Encourage one another with scriptures throughout the week.

Hide his word – Psalm 119:11

Storing up God's Word in our hearts equips us to become more like Jesus. The presence of God's Word in our hearts and minds allows us to live lives of peace grounded in the truth, make decisions that please him, and resist the enemy. In order to hide it in our hearts, we must commit to memorizing and meditating on God's Word daily.

BIBLE DRIVEN
(CONTINUED)

PRACTICAL TIPS

- Choose passages of scripture to memorize together as a Life Group. Use tools such as the "Verses" app to help with memorization.
- Commit together to spending consistent time in God's Word and help hold each other accountable for doing so.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean for our Life Group to be biblically driven?
2. What rhythms or habits can help us keep God's Word at the center of our group, even when distractions compete for our attention?
3. How can we make a greater commitment to learning and applying God's Word?
4. How can our Life Group keep each other responsible for memorizing and internalizing Scripture?
5. How do you see the value of being Bible driven reflected in the teaching and culture of Mission Hills?

INTENTIONALLY IMPROVING

We work hard at getting better to honor God and inspire people.

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving." – Colossians 3:23-24

Be continually growing – 2 Peter 1:5-8

The Christian life is a journey of growth. Each day is another step toward becoming like Jesus. This requires humility, effort, and honest reflection. In our Life Groups, intentionally improving means continually finding new ways to serve others and meet their needs. It means encouraging one another to grow in faith and inspiring each other to walk closer with Jesus. We pursue growth not for our own recognition, but to honor God and reflect His character.

PRACTICAL TIPS

- Take some time in a group meeting or in texts throughout the week to encourage one another and their faith journey.
- Be a forever student of God's Word, constantly learning from it.

Fight apathy – Romans 12:11

The longer Life Groups stay together, the easier it is for them to grow comfortable and then complacent. Your Life Group should be proactive

INTENTIONALLY IMPROVING (CONTINUED)

and raise concerns if you feel that you are leaning towards apathy or stagnation. Fight for new ideas and ways your group can continue to grow spiritually. Work together to find creative solutions that fight against apathy.

PRACTICAL TIPS

- Share group ownership. Change who is leading and facilitating the conversation. Allow new voices to speak up.
- Evaluate whether or not your group is consistently living out all six of the Mission Hills core values.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean for our Life Group to be intentionally improving?
2. What can we do as a group to fight apathy and make sure we are constantly growing spiritually?
3. What are some current needs in our Life Group that we can come around and meet?
4. How can we inspire each other to become more like Jesus every day?
5. How do you see the value of being intentionally improving reflected in the teaching and culture of Mission Hills?

DARINGLY CREATIVE

We brave new territory to advance the gospel.

"I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings." – 1 Corinthians 9:22-23

Brave new territory – Matthew 28:19-20

We live in a mission field. The Front Range of Colorado is full of people who desperately need the good news of Jesus. Your mission field might not be on the other side of the world. It could be right across the street, at work, or at school. God loves the world so much that he gave His Son, and he wants them to know it so badly that he gave them the church. Step boldly into new territory for the gospel and be the light in your community.

PRACTICAL TIPS

- Take a moment in your group to write down your spheres of influence (work, school, kid's sports, neighborhood etc.) and map out your mission field.
- Ask for God to give you opportunities to share the gospel with others.

Connect creatively – 1 Corinthians 9:22-23

Reaching a wide variety of people requires daring creativity. Living on mission means putting others first and meeting them where they are. It invites us to step beyond what's comfortable and look for fresh,

DARINGLY CREATIVE (CONTINUED)

meaningful ways to serve and share the hope of Jesus. This happens both inside our Life Groups and out in the community as we care for one another and reach those who haven't yet said yes to Jesus.

PRACTICAL TIPS

- Get to know the people in your Life Group and their needs, then find ways to meet them.
- Find creative ways to serve your neighbors to open the door to relationship: bake cookies, help with yardwork, offer to watch their pets or kids, etc.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean for our Life Group to be daringly creative?
2. Does our group share the gospel with others? How can we make this a bigger priority?
3. What circles of influence in your life is God inviting you to bring the gospel into?
4. How are we leading our families to live on mission for the gospel?
5. How do you see the value of being daringly creative reflected in the teaching and culture of Mission Hills?

CRAZY GENEROUS

We mirror God's outrageous grace with outrageous giving.

"In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us." – Ephesians 1:7-8

Internalize his grace – Ephesians 1:7-8

God has shown us crazy generosity by giving His own Son to die in our place. He took our punishment and gave us grace instead. Grace is a gift we could never earn or deserve, yet God pours it out without measure. Because of His grace, we walk in freedom, fully loved by our Savior. As followers of Jesus, we aim each day to remember and internalize that grace. It is not just a distant or abstract idea. It is a personal gift from God Himself.

PRACTICAL TIPS

- Reflect on areas in your life where you are still trying to earn approval from God rather than resting in what Jesus has done on the cross.
- Preach the gospel to yourself daily and take time to remember God's generosity (2 Peter 1:12-13).

Reflect his generosity – 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

The biblical response to God's outrageous generosity is to reflect it towards others. Grace-filled people give graciously. They share not just

CRAZY GENEROUS (CONTINUED)

money, but also their time, talents, and care. True generosity is holistic and often uncomfortable; it means giving beyond what feels normal or convenient. When we give freely, we mirror the outrageous generosity God has shown to us.

PRACTICAL TIPS

- Find ways to be outrageously generous to your Life Group: offer to babysit, bring a meal to your next group meeting, sit with someone at the hospital, etc.
- Schedule generosity into your calendar. Make it a priority by picking specific dates and times when you will do certain acts of generosity.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean for our Life Group to be crazy generous?
2. What are you actively doing to remember and internalize God's grace?
3. Is every member of our group giving to our church? If not, is this something we can commit to doing as a group?
4. How can we be generous to each other during these Life Group meetings? (Can you host, bring food, care for one another, serve one another outside of regular group meetings?)
5. How do you see the value of being crazy generous reflected in the teaching and culture of Mission Hills?