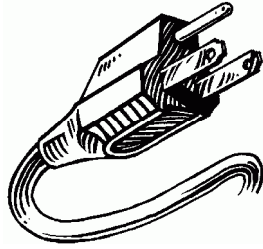


## The 3-Pronged Plug: *Are you grounded in worship, community, and mission?*

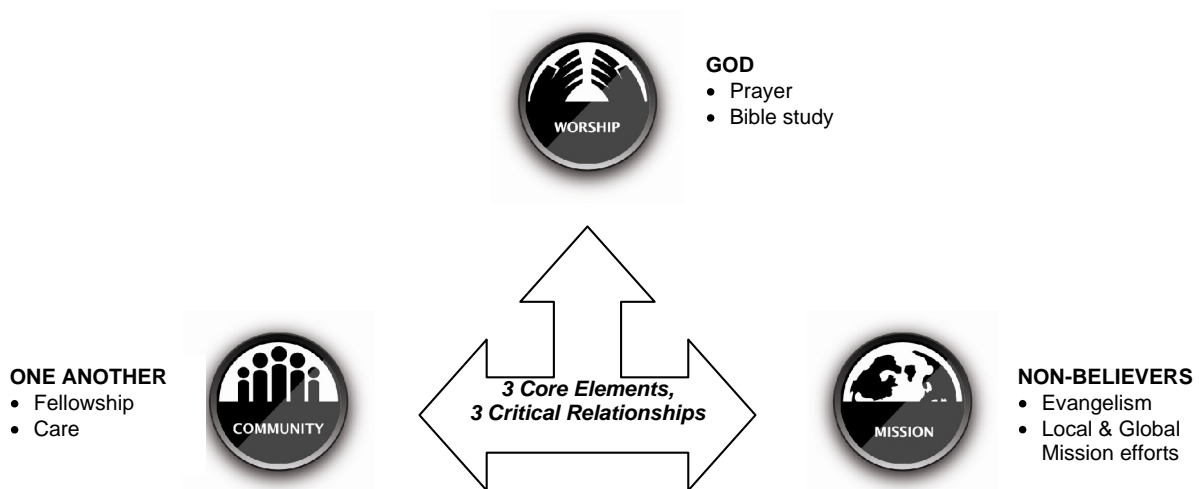


How do we balance engaging our LifeGroups in Bible study and prayer, authentic relationships with each other, and impacting the world for Christ?

The challenge of making Worship-Community-Mission a reality in your LifeGroup.

# ONE:TWENTYONE

COMMUNITY CHURCH



## LIFE GROUPS




A **LifeGroup** is a small group of people who commit to life together in the context of three critical relationships. The group will pursue relationships with:

- (1) God, especially through prayer and Bible study;
- (2) each other, especially through fellowship and care; and
- (3) non-believers, especially through personal relationships and engaging in local and global Mission efforts.

This corresponds directly to the overall strategy of 121CC to engage the body in worship, community, and mission. LifeGroups reflect on a micro, "little church" level the approach taken for 121CC overall on the macro level.

## How can we implement and balance W-C-M?

*Here are some practical ways to engage your LifeGroup in Bible study and prayer, authentic relationships in the group, and impacting the world for Christ...*

	<p><b><u>Bible study ideas:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Track with the sermon from Sunday. Ask key questions each week from the message and study the passage fresh as a group.</li><li>• Alternate between studying the Old Testament, New Testament, and topical studies or reading a book together.</li><li>• Set the pattern for facilitating discussion then trade the responsibility around; just ask others to do it for that week and see what happens.</li><li>• Invite a guest leader to come and share with the group (finances, marriage, theology, interpreting Scripture, evangelism, cross cultural ministry...)</li><li>• Other ideas:</li><li>•</li></ul> <p><b><u>Prayer ideas:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mix up prayer. Pray in the group time, split up into groups, or into pairs.</li><li>• Get in pairs (or 3's) and commit to pray for each other every week for 2 months, then switch it up.</li><li>• Pray your prayer requests, or write them on note cards and distribute for committed prayer through the week.</li><li>• Pray through each main point of the Scripture passage or study for that week, asking for the Holy Spirit's application and formation of the group.</li><li>• Other ideas:</li><li>•</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plan a social/fun/game night every 3 months where all you do is hang out. Do it during your LifeGroup time or reschedule the meeting time that week.</li><li>• Meet earlier and start with a meal, even if only once each month.</li><li>• Dedicate group time once in awhile to share and catch up with one another.</li><li>• Plan for each group member to get together 1on1/2on2 over a 6-week span.</li><li>• [see prayer ideas above]</li><li>• Other ideas:</li><li>•</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To serve locally, meet at a different time once each month to serve together (e.g., Monday nights at La Comunidad; Saturdays at GRACE or Mission Arlington), or set up a rotation/schedule to serve a refugee family.</li><li>• Pray intentionally for lost people in your spheres of influence; share any ways the group can show Christ's love or share with those prayed for.</li><li>• For global efforts, dedicate time each week to either pray for partners or missionaries, write notes of encouragement, set up a daily prayer rotation, share current events in the country or ministry, or discuss an upcoming opportunity in which someone in the group could participate.</li><li>• Other ideas:</li><li>•</li></ul>

## “You don’t gotta be superman”

What if everyone in your LifeGroup had a role? What if each member of the group actually saw themselves as, well, part of the Body of Christ (Ephesians 4), and saw the need to exercise his/her gifts in the LifeGroup? What might that look like?

There are four critical roles in **bold** below, none of which necessarily need to be played by the LifeGroup leader, plus other possible roles depending on the nature of the LifeGroup. Here is one of a hundred ways the group could be engaged to “find its W-C-M inner child.” Imagine a conversation in a LifeGroup in early September to lay out the rest of the year for the group...

- LifeGroup leader’s task:
  - lay out September thru December
  - delegate or equip others in these areas of leadership:
    - **Prayer**
    - **Bible study**
    - **Mission focus**
    - **Community building**
    - Member care
    - Communication (emails, calls, reminders, organization)
    - Childcare (making sure we have a plan and finances are in order)
    - Hosting / organize place to meet
    - etc. etc. etc.
- **Community** builder’s task:
  - Plan 1-2 social (fun) events sometime in the fall
  - Team up with Mission lead to see what we can do as a group to intentionally build community on a day of service in the fall
- **Mission** coordinator’s task: For September thru December, lead the group to either
  - (1) Serve together regularly, rescheduling the group meeting time if the serving cannot take place during the normal LifeGroup time (e.g., serve monthly on a Monday night at La Comunidad; regular rotation with a refugee family; etc.),

OR

  - (2) regularly focus in the LifeGroup time on global focus (pray for missionaries weekly, write letters to global partners, etc.)
- **Prayer** leader’s task: facilitate the group praying for one another consistently through the week for September thru December (by matching up partners, sending out the top 3 prayer requests each week, etc.)
- **Bible study** discussion facilitator’s task: lay out what we’ll study the next 3 months, keeping in mind we will miss some weeks because of service or socials
- Member care leader’s task: find out if there are any major life events upcoming; be ready to move if there is a death, marriage, baby, financial crisis, emergency...
- Communication leader: figure out (and commit to) a plan to communicate with the group during the week, where the group is meeting next week, what to prepare, etc.

