

## **Weekly Leader Community Guide**

### **August 9, 2020**

#### **Welcome**

Spend time welcoming everyone as they arrive. Engaging in intentional conversation.

#### **Overview and Weekly Practice**

On this journey, you will quickly find yourselves in the realm of opinions, preferences, and personality—of which there are many. In doing so, it is okay and unlikely for everyone to be on the same page. However, we must fight for unity as we remember the enemy's goal is to bring division. One of the ways a church community grows divided is by not having a clear picture of what the immediate future holds. Over the past several months, there has been much uncertainty. Moving forward, we want to give you, our Ethos family, something certain you can hold on to. As we begin to move into the fall, for a temporary season of twelve weeks. We are setting aside the possibility of reentering into a large gathering on Sunday mornings in order to focus fully on Community Groups. As we prepare for great opportunities to grow spiritually and in unity through groups; it will be as imperative as ever before that we all lean into four things that we find the early Church engaging in (Acts 2:42):

1. Leaning into God's Word together
2. Leaning into a depth of relationship together
3. Leaning into remembering who Jesus is together
4. Leaning into prayer together

As we relaunch Community Groups in an improved manner, we have an opportunity to not only experience personal growth but to also create opportunities for others to experience healthy family. The Psalmist wrote in Psalm 68:6, "God sets the lonely in families." Notice God's promise in this verse; HE sets (places the lonely) in a family. Our responsibility is to create space within our Ethos Family for God to set those who are lonely. In this season, there are a lot of lonely people. In fact, most of us, if we are honest, experience feelings of isolation and loneliness on a weekly basis.

Community Groups will give us the greatest opportunity to eradicate relational poverty. Together, we can make a difference. Together, we can be a part of establishing God's Kingdom on Earth, as it is in Heaven.

#### **Prayer**

Take a few minutes to pray corporately. Pray for this upcoming season of Community Groups, that God will move in each group in unique ways. For every person seeking a place to call family and a place to feel included, will find their way into the group that God has for them.

## **Engage with the Online Experience**

Sing, lean in, engage, take notes, be vocal...create an intentional environment!

## **Discussion Questions**

1. When you think about the people in your life that have had the greatest impact on you, what was it (what did they do) that influenced you so greatly? How can you be that type of influence to others in your world?
2. What “new thing” do you believe God has been encouraging you to embrace? What does it require you to adjust, to change, to end or begin?
3. We do not always know what will change as a result of this season we are all living in, but we do know that we want to change in this season. When we gather again in a large setting on Sunday mornings, what are you praying and believing for to change in your own life?

## **Close in Prayer**

End asking God to help you take what you have heard, learned, and were challenged by and apply it through your week.

**In This Together!**