

## Strategic Prayer Focus

Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, he gave the right to become children of God. John 1:12

On the lines below write down two or three pre-Christian friends, co-workers or family members God has placed on your heart to pray that they will accept Christ as their Savior and Lord. God does not waste relationships. He strategically places people in our lives that we can influence to consider following Christ. On the extra lines write down the contacts of other group members and pray for them as well. Keep this card in your Bible as a bookmark for you daily reading and as a reminder to pray for their salvation.

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## Here are some specific prayers to pray each day on their behalf.

1. Lord, I pray that you will draw \_\_\_\_\_ to yourself (John 6:44).
2. I pray that \_\_\_\_\_ will hear and believe Your Word (1 Thessalonians 2:13).
3. Holy Spirit, I ask You to convict \_\_\_\_\_ of his/her need for Christ (John 16:7-14)
4. I ask that You send someone who will share the gospel with \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 9:37, 38).
5. I ask that you give me the opportunity, courage and right words to share the truth with \_\_\_\_\_ (Ephesians 6:19, 20).
6. Lord, I pray that \_\_\_\_\_ will accept Christ as Lord and grow in the truth (Colossians 2:6, 7).

## How to Start A Link Group

You don't have to wait to be asked! Consider yourself authorized to form your Link Group! Here's what to do.

### Step 1: Ask a friend or two to join your group.

Group members may be Christian or pre-Christian--this could be God's way of bringing them to faith in Him. Be sure to keep the group same sex to allow for more open communication.

### Step 2: Choose a time and place.

Try to find a place that encourages open discussion and prayer. An uninterrupted meeting is vital to making the group work.

### Step 3: Agree on your weekly Bible reading.

Select a plan that includes four or five chapters a day in order to get God's big picture in His Word. The reading will take about fifteen minutes a day. If someone in the group failed to finish the reading, keep the same assignment for the next week until everyone's together.

### Step 4: Make sure everyone has materials.

It's best that everyone read the same version of Scripture. The Journey Bible, published by Zondervan, is a great reading Bible. Everyone should also have a brochure with the Character Conversation Questions and Strategic Prayer Focus attached and ready to be filled out.

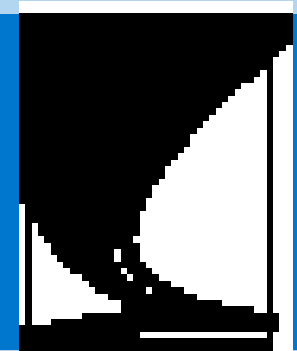
### Step 5: Ask God to bless your Link Group.

God loves you and wants the best for you. Ask Him that your group will transform lives into the image of Jesus Christ!

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# Link Groups



- ▶ Connecting to God
- ▶ Connecting to Followers of Christ
- ▶ Connecting to those yet to meet him

# Link Groups

## What is the purpose of a Link Group?

A Link Group is a simple approach to becoming more like Jesus Christ. Through a simple accountability structure each participant is encouraged to take seriously the Christian life and Christ's call to be His person in today's world.

## A Link Group . . . .

- meets for one hour each week.
- consists of two or three people of the same sex.
- multiplies. The addition of a fourth person is the beginning of a second group.
- uses the Bible as it's only curriculum.
- does not have a leader and no training is necessary.

## Who should be in a Link Group?

- Anyone who understands their need for accountability to grow as a Christian.
- Anyone who craves authentic relationships with others.
- Anyone who wishes to learn more about what the Bible has to say about their life.
- Anyone who desires to see others meet Christ and experience the peace and joy available only through Him.

## Connecting to God

Let the Word of Christ dwell in your richly.

Colossians 3:16

Each group selects a daily Bible reading plan. This may consist of a Through the Bible in One Year schedule or selected books or portions of Scripture. The group begins with each person sharing how God spoke to him or her through His Word that week.

## Connecting to Followers of Christ

Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another so that you may be saved. James 5:16

Each participant reads and responds to the Character Conversation Questions on the attached card. This provides an opportunity for true community as group members encourage and pray for each other. Personal accountability promotes authentic Christianity.

## Connecting to Those Yet to Meet Him

My heart's desire and prayer to God is that they may be saved.

Romans 10:1

Each Link Group member identifies two or three pre-Christians from their personal network and prays daily that they will meet Christ. Their names are recorded on the Strategic Prayer Focus on the reverse side of the attached card. Meetings end with a time of prayer for each other's contacts and strength to serve Christ.

## Character Conversation Questions

As iron sharpens iron so one person sharpens another.

Proverbs 17:17

These questions are designed to stimulate conversations of character and confession in a safe environment. It's helpful to gauge your response anywhere on a scale of 1 to 10 with one reflecting "I had a lousy week in this area" and 10 reflecting "I had a good week in this area".

### 1. Did I invest the proper quality/quantity of time in my most important relationships?

(i.e., spouse, kids, close friends, family)

(Ephesians 5:25ff; 1 Peter 4:8)

### 2. Did my life reflect verbal integrity?

(Colossians 3:8, 9)

### 3. Did I express a forgiving attitude toward others?

(Hebrews 12:15; Romans 12:17-21)

### 4. Did I practice undisciplined or addictive behavior?

(i.e., substance abuse, food, TV, exercise, sleep, work, sex, etc.)

(Hebrews 12:1; Ephesians 5:18; Galatians 5:16)

### 5. Was I honorable in my financial dealings?

(debt; integrity)

(Colossians 3:22-25; Romans 13:8)

### 6. Was I sexually pure? (lust; actual practice)

Thessalonians 4:1-8; Matthew 5:27, 28)

### 7. Did I spend time with the Lord this week, completing the Bible reading for the week?

(Psalm 46:10; 2 Timothy 3:16, 17)

### 8. Did I pray for my pre-Christian friends? Did I talk with someone about Christ?

(Matthew 28:18-20; Colossians 4:2-6)