



Committing to the Life Group Covenant Group Guide – January 26

Note to leaders: *If members of your group were unable to attend Life Group Vision Nights, you may want to send them the link to the video of Dan's message or watch it as a group when you gather. You can view the video [HERE](#).*

*The primary focus of this week will build upon the conversation your group had around the [Life Group Covenant Reflection Practice](#) the Life Group Vision Nights experience. **Be sure each member of the group has a copy of the [Life Group Covenant](#).***

Opening Prayer: From the Friendship of David and Jonathan in 1 Samuel

Heavenly Father, we come before you today with hearts full of gratitude, encouraged by the friendship between Jonathan and David. We thank you for the example they set of deep, sacrificial love and unwavering loyalty. Lord, just as you brought these two men together in a bond that was rooted in your love and righteousness, we ask that you help us cultivate friendships that honor you and reflect your goodness.

Pause to give thanks for the ways those in your life group have shown you sacrificial love and loyalty.

Teach us, Lord, to be loyal like Jonathan, who put the needs of his friend above his own, even when it was difficult. Help us to be the kind of friends who encourage, protect, and uplift each other, not for personal gain, but out of love and devotion. Just as Jonathan laid aside his own rights to see David thrive, may we also have hearts willing to sacrifice for those we care about.

Pause to ask the Lord to show you where you can grow in sacrificial love towards those in your life group.

Lord, grant us the wisdom to recognize true friendship when it comes, and the strength to nurture it. Like David, may we never take the gift of loyal companionship for granted but cherish it as a

reflection of your love for us. In times of trouble, let us be there for one another with a steady, compassionate presence, just as Jonathan was for David in his darkest moments.

Pause to give thanks for the ways your life group has shown up for one another in difficult times.

We ask for your guidance to help us be friends who speak truth, offer encouragement, and hold each other accountable in love. May our friendships be filled with integrity, respect, and a desire to see one another grow closer to you. Let our bonds be unbreakable, even through challenges and hardships, because you are the one who strengthens us.

Pause to ask the Lord to give you the courage to come to your group with vulnerability and a deep desire to be formed into the image of Christ.

Above all, Lord, may we remember that true friendship is rooted in your love. Let it be a reflection of your goodness, a testament to your faithfulness, and a reminder that you are with us through all things. Amen.

Discussion: Committing to the Life Group Covenant

1. Did anything from Dan's message on spiritual friendship stand out to you?
2. How might we as a life group pursue spiritual friendship with one another?

The Life Group Covenant includes a blank space where each group can add additional behaviors, attitudes, or rhythms they desire to live into as a life group.

This might include commitments such as how often and where your group will serve the community, how often the group will split into men's/women's groups for accountability, how often and when your group will focus on prayer experiences, how often your group will share a meal, or how often you will gather for fun and fellowship.

Once the group has agreed on the details of the covenant, sign them and pick a date in the next six months to check in with the group to see how things are going and if anything needs to be adjusted.

Close in prayer together, including any requests shared.

Father, as disciples, help us to pursue formation into Christlikeness by abiding in Christ through worship, teaching, Scripture, prayer, and community.

Father, help us to live out your word, through the guidance of the Holy Spirit and in accountability with others.

Father, help us acknowledge the authority of Scripture and pursue emotional and relational health all as a part of growing in spiritual maturity.

Father, as people with a purpose in the Kingdom of God, help us to proclaim the Gospel in our community by serving others and sharing the hope of Jesus.

Father, help us to partner with you by generously giving our time, gifts, and resources.

As we pursue a life abiding in you, may we do all these things for your glory. Amen.

What's next?

1. For the weeks of February 2 and February 9, you can expect content for the whole group to go through together. For the following eight weeks, men will go through the book *Fighting Shadows*, by Jon Tyson and Jefferson Bethke, while the women will continue to spend time in the Matthew sermon series, with a special emphasis on prayer.
2. On February 2, life group leaders (and anyone else) are invited to drop by the south rooms between 10am-11am where the Formation team will have samples of the life group content for men and women following the Men's Conference. If you have questions, you can contact liscaldwell@thecreek.org or jeffreichanadter@thecreek.org.
3. Be sure you're signed up for the Men's Conference, February 7-8.
4. On February 6, women will gather in the Chapel from 7-8:30pm to pray over the Men's Conference. All women are welcome!
5. Women's Prayer Gathering on the second and fourth Tuesdays 8-9pm in the Prayer Room. All women are welcome!