

Life Group Leader

Job Description

Purpose of a Life Group Leader:

Life groups are the primary means of care and shepherding at StoneBridge.

Life groups balance the priorities of care, community, and Christian growth.

Care: We foster a group in which people are invested in, prayed for, and pastored through the challenges of life.

Community: We develop a 'doing life in Christ together' mindset in which each member gives of themselves to invest in the others.

Christian growth: We disciple people so that they might grow in their understanding and application of the gospel.

Our life group leaders are those who have committed to live out these priorities within a covenantal community of (ideally) 10 to 14 members.

Prerequisites of a Life Group Leader

- Professing faith in Christ and actively following Him
- Living with a humble and teachable attitude and a gospel confidence
- A member of StoneBridge for at least 6 months
- Regularly attending worship services at StoneBridge
- Interview and approval by the Pastor of Connections

Because this is essentially a shepherding role, character is crucial. You will be modeling the Christian life to your group through your words and actions. A life group leader, therefore, needs to have a heart surrendered to Jesus' lordship (Philippians 3:12). Maturity is a process, but a life group leader needs to be mature enough to understand their need of the gospel, and transparent enough to admit it regularly.

Basic Job Description of a Life Group Leader

- Commits their availability for organizing 2 to 4 meetings a month, from September to May.
- Determines the study material for the group, and facilitates discussion of it.
 - *A discussion leader is not the same thing as a teacher. Your role is not to lecture or even to do most of the talking, but to guide the group with questions that promote personal engagement. Ideally a group leader will speak less than 25 percent during a discussion.*
- Identifies the interests and gifts of members and finds ways to utilize them in the group.
 - *Life group leaders are not expected to do all the teaching or even all the hosting; dividing leadership tasks creates ownership amongst its members.*
 - *A good life group leader will seek to identify, develop, and send future life group leaders.*
- Prays weekly for each member of the group.
- Encourages members to spend time together outside the group (and models this goal).
- Acts as a primary shepherd when a need or crisis arises within the group—in coordination with the church staff when needed.

- Works in tandem with spouse (if married); in the StoneBridge model, husband and wife are treated as full co-leaders of the group.
- Partners with the pastoral staff in administrating and caring for the group (taking attendance, setting meeting schedule, making pastors aware of crisis needs, etc.).

Ongoing Training Requirements

In the course of a year, our life group leaders are asked to commit to the following training opportunities:

- 1) **Life Group Mini-Retreat** (a 3-hour training for the entire team, on a Saturday in August)
- 2) **Life Group Cohort** (a 2-hour training/discussion with a smaller gathering of other life group leaders, scheduled in February and March)
- 3) **Coaching meeting** with the Pastor of Connections (scheduled annually in the summer, or more often if desired)
- 4) Reading of e-mails and communications throughout the year.

For more information, contact Kevin Burrell, Pastor of Connections (kevin@stonebridge.org).