



Life Groups Description Form:

What is a Life Group?

A Life Group is a group of people who come together on a regular basis for a common purpose, and are led by hosts. Hosts assist the group members in reaching their full devotion and potential in Christ by intentionally facilitating an environment for connection, community, and spiritual growth.

We believe, at the Tabernacle of Praise, that real life change happens best in the context of authentic relationships. Our "Free-Market" Life Groups meet once a week in places all around our region and provide a place for you to connect, grow, and discuss the challenges of life.

Why should I join a Life Group?

Life Groups are your key to developing connections with those who share your common interests, or people who are dealing with similar life situations.

Do Life Groups do anything to help others?

Throughout the semester, the Life Group will have 1 "Community Outreach Project" and 1 "Fellowship Event" week. The Community Outreach Project (COP) gives you the opportunity to help those in need in our local community. COPs can range from something very small to something really large such as: donating baby clothes, helping feed the homeless, fixing up someone's home, taking a meal to the local fire department, etc. The opportunities are nearly limitless. Each Life Group will choose their own COP that they wish to do.

The *Fellowship Event* week allows you the opportunity to build better relationships with those in your group. This is where the group breaks away from formal curriculums or interest and has a time of fellowship together for one evening such as: eating at a restaurant, bowling, movies, sporting events, cookouts, etc. This event is specifically designed to help you get to know the people in your group better and build meaningful life-long relationships.

When are Life Groups offered throughout the year?

Life Groups are typically offered 3 times throughout the year:

1. Fall Semester: Begins the first week of September

2. Spring Semester: Begins the first week of February
3. Summer Semester: Begins the first week of June

Do you really have a group for me?

Regardless of your age, interest, or location, we are sure that we have a Life Group out there for you. We also have 3 different types of "Free Market" Life Groups which include:

1. Curriculum-Based: This is where the host uses an approved formal curriculum through us at the Tabernacle of Praise.
2. Interest-Based: This can be anything from: outdoors, shopping, running, Monday Night Football, exercise, etc.
3. Both: A Life Group can also be an interest-based group that uses a formal curriculum.

If you would like to join a Life Group, simply visit the *Life Group On-line Directory* tab on our church's website (listed below), or you can visit the *Information Center* to get a printed directory (located in the atrium) at the Tabernacle of Praise. Once you have chosen a group that fits you, simply contact the Life Group Host or just show up to the time and location specified in the directory.

Could I be involved in the ministry of Life Groups?

We have 3 positions that are available through Life Groups which include:

1. Host: The host facilitates the group.
2. Apprentice: The apprentice serves as a co-host.
3. Home Host: The home host simply opens their home up to an outside host, and allows a Life Group to come into their home 1 night per week for a couple of hours.

If you are interested in any of these 3 positions listed above, please fill out an *Involvement Form* located in the *Important Forms* tab on our church's main website or e-mail Life Groups' Pastor Kevin Dingess at: KevinDingess@hurricanechurch.com.

How much training do I need to become a host of a Life Group?

The word H.O.S.T. at the Tabernacle or Praise's Life Groups is used as an acronym of what is expected of a host. It stands for the following:

1. **H**: Have a Heart for People
2. **O**: Open Your Place (meet in a home, coffeehouse, restaurant, or workplace)
3. **S**: Serve or Arrange for a Snack to be Served
4. **T**: Turn on a DVD

You do not have to be a theologian or have a long background in ministry to become a host. As long as you can complete the tasks listed above, you can become a Host.

What is the process for becoming a host?

Step 1: Life Group Involvement Form

1. Before beginning as a host of a Life Group, all potential Hosts must complete an *Involvement Form*.

Step 2: Life Group Host Interview

1. All potential Life Group Hosts are required to complete a 1-on-1 interview with the Life Groups Pastor and the Life Groups Coach before beginning *TAB Connection*.

What is the training process to becoming a Host?

Step 1: TAB Connection

1. All first time Hosts must complete the *TAB Connection* course.
2. *TAB Connection* is offered every Sunday in a classroom in the gymnasium.
3. *TAB Connection* is a 3 Week Course held every week from 9:45am to 10:30am.
4. *TAB Connection* is designed to give you a general overview of our church, and what we are trying to accomplish for the Lord at the Tabernacle of Praise.

Once you have completed TAB Connection, you will be required to take:

Step 2: Life Group Training #1: Becoming a New H.O.S.T.

1. Welcome Letter
2. FAQ Sheet
3. DVD "How to Start a Life Group"
4. Postcard Sized Invitations
5. Sample Scripts for Invites
6. Suggestions on: How to Invite People to Your Group
7. What You Need for Your First Meeting
8. Access to On-line Trainings

For more information please visit the following:

1. Website: <http://hurricanechurch.com/#/life-groups>
2. Life Group's Pastor E-mail: KevinDingess@hurricanechurch.com
3. Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/?ref=tn_tnmn#!/pages/Tabernacle-of-Praise-Life-Groups/140064829418891
 - Special Note: If you click "Like" on our facebook page, you will automatically receive updates on Tabernacle of Praise Life Groups as we post them.