

FBC Today



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MAIN SERVICE
| Physical & Youtube |
Sundays 8:45am / 11:15am

YOUTH SERVICE
| Physical |
Sundays 9:00am

SUNDAY SCHOOL
For Ages 3 to 12
(Preschool to std 6)
Physical Classes
8:45am / 11:15am

U N L E A S H I N G T H E G O S P E L **ENGAGE | ENCOURAGE | EDIFY**

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The Living Life Group

When cell groups first started in my old church, I was in my twenties, and everyone called me “young man”, because that was what I was, because everyone else in the group was older. It was here that I started preparing and leading Bible study, encouraged by the older folks, who were really just older middle-aged adults. It did not matter that as a young adult, I made up 15 percent of the group of 20. It was fun, and I enjoyed their company, and they probably enjoyed mine (I think).

**NEXT
WEEK'S
SERMON**

August 18, 2024

**The Body and
Spiritual Gifts 1**

1 Corinthians 12

Preacher

Dr. Peter Ng

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RENOVATION
& UPGRADE

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'BUILDING'

Some things happened in the world, and overnight, the nomenclature “cell group” was deemed unsuitable. A name change was in order, Life Group (LG) it is then – not really any different, just more of the same. But what is an LG?

It depends on who you ask, it is a rather flexible term and it is happy being that. Some say it is a gathering of people from the church who have common interests. Some say it is an age-specific group, so they can empathize with the common struggle they face and support one another. And the proverbial list goes on.

I have strong ideas about what an LG is or should be, but let me narrow it down to two simple elements;

1) the Bible is discussed, studied, talked about, prayed over, and applied in daily life, and 2) a small community of pre-dominantly Christians who predominantly worship in the same church.

Interestingly enough, a healthy LG is a perfect nucleus for a church-plant. But more about that later.

An LG obviously operates as a community, that will and must inadvertently “do life” together. Apart from Bible-based activities, they include chilling, chatting, doing activities, having meals, etc. They are friends, look out for one another, show care and love, and simply socialize.

Factor in the large church the FBC is, and it is obvious that some may choose to remain invisible, hidden in plain sight;

while others who may need fellowship fall through the cracks. There is literally no way for leaders to touch base with everyone. This accentuates the need for a healthy LG system, where any given group is smaller and no one is left behind. For this reason, everyone in every church should be in an LG.

If you have been to Singapore, you may know that certain stretches of highway can quickly be modified, by moving some road furniture, to accommodate fighter jets as an airstrip/runway, when the need arises such as in National Emergencies and war. An LG is (should be) similar in that sense. In times of emergencies, the humble LG effectively becomes a house church or a small church.

It follows, in the light of an LG being an effective small church and a potential church plant, that the members of any LG should be a realistic demographic of the church at large. No church is age-based, and no church is exclusive to people we may like to the exclusion of people we do not.

As one of FBC elders rightly says, “The church is redemptive.” This means everyone and anyone should be welcomed into any LGs. No LGs should have an elitist mentality. And contrary to logic and popular belief, a group of people with a good dose of sameness does not make the best or most vibrant LG. Variety is the spice of life and healthy friction is the way to go... as long as everyone remembers to love one another as Christ loved us.

I trust everyone who reads this will agree that what is found here is not

ultra-Biblical or a “bridge too far”. This here is a realistic description and expectation of any given LG.

The bar is set at a level for anyone to achieve. That being the case, every LG needs a leader, and preferably an assistant leader. Therefore, people need to step up and commit.

Who can be an LG leader? The requirements are (ideally) 1) Both male and female of various adult ages are suitable, 2) they should be a member of FBC, 3) they should love the word of God since the Bible will take a prominent place in any LG, 4) it follows that they should be active and long-time learners

of the Bible, 5) their lives should reflect the vastness of what they know of the Bible.

Let me end by saying a big thank you to Brother David Ng who led the ministry with diligence, brother, I await your return as my partner-in-crime. Also, the tireless work and sacrifice of all LG leaders and assistant leaders, thank you. Let us all move forward on the right foot to the end of 2024, towards the vision of more healthy LGs, a healthier church body, and better equipped to reflect Christ’s love.



By Donald Cheah

Donald attends Saujana Life Group and leads the Life Group Ministry

PrayerSpotlight

Prayer for First Light Girls Home

- Pray that the power and presence of God will be prevalent in the home.
- Pray for the spirit of unity and understanding among the staff and girls.
- Pray that each and every girl in the home will feel loved and cared for.
- Pray for the Spirit to banish any thought and action of bullying and polarization from the home.
- Pray for girls to be rooted in the love of God.
- Pray that God will grant wisdom, strength and unity to the committee members.
- Pray for God to provide a smooth and speedy process for the JKM licensing.
- Pray that God will direct more girls into the home.