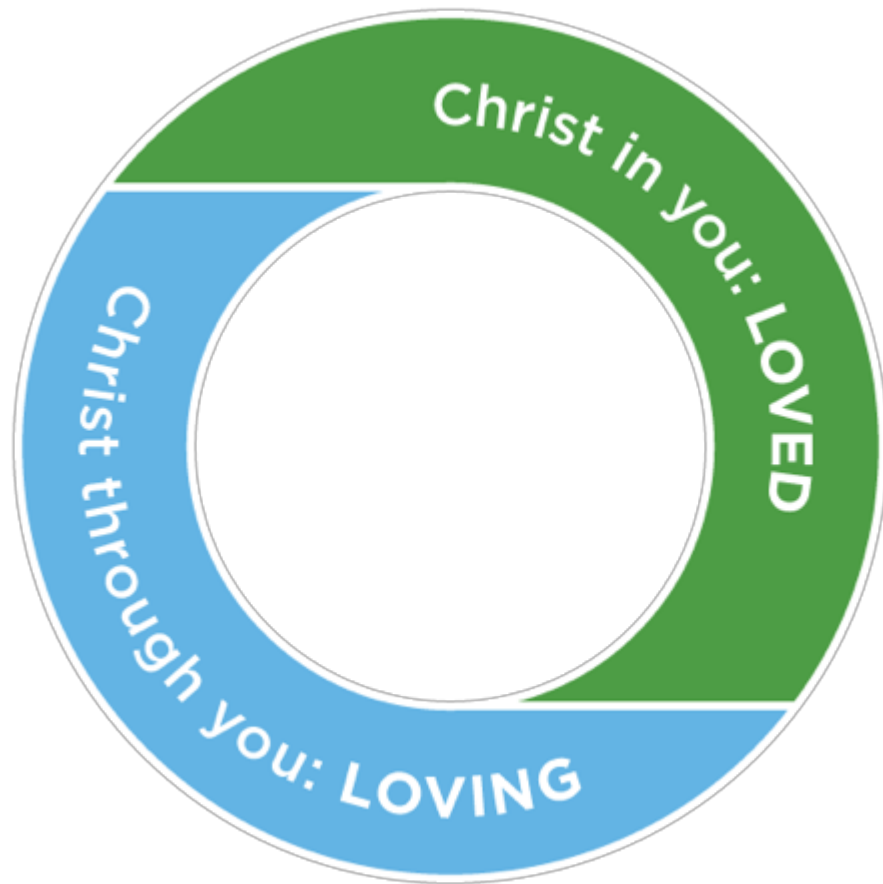


2nd Quarter



2nd QUARTER

Growth & Worship

6 meetings (twice monthly); *"Christ in You: Alive & Free"* or *"Established in Christ Guide"*

Service & Missions

1 meeting; Service Project

Community & Evangelism

1 meeting; Serve a group member

Total of 8 meetings

Growth & Worship

During this phase your group can begin working through either *“Christ in You: Alive & Free”* or the revised *“Established in Christ Guide.”* Both books are available in the book corner near the coffee bar. With either of these studies you can either ask members to study these sessions at home, fill in the blanks, and come to the group to discuss what they learned, or just have them bring their books to the group meetings, read them out loud together, and discuss possible answers to the questions all together. This approach is very helpful for people who just won’t do homework. People who can’t or won’t do a daily study guide often don’t have the lesson finished by the time the group will be meeting so they end up not coming because they don’t want to look unprepared. Your group might have more success by just doing the lessons all together during the meetings. Remember, this is a small group discussion time and not a lecture. Your goal as the small group leader is to facilitate discussion and get as many of your group members to speak as possible. Ask for volunteers to read sections of the lesson out loud for the group. Don’t ask direct questions of anyone but do encourage everyone to participate.

Service & Missions

You may need to plan this service project out weeks in advance of this meeting. It might be something the entire group can do together at the church like serving in one of the children’s areas; setting up and serving communion in the church services; or serving on one of the greeting teams during holiday services...etc. It may also include a local mission’s opportunity.

A list of **“Local Mission Opportunities”** is included in Appendix B, page 55 of this resource. Make sure your members don’t just see this as “busy work”, but as a way to express the Life of Christ to each other and to the world. Contact your community pastor for details on how to serve as a group at the church.

Community & Evangelism

Serving a group member is a part of the **“Christ Through you: LOVING”** side of the “experience Life Wheel”. It might be some extended time spent as a group helping another group member or a group members family with an issue with their home (painting, yard work, moving furniture, cleaning out areas of the house...etc.). Again, it may take some advanced planning before having this meeting and you may have to schedule this on a day other than the one your group normally meets on. Do this in lieu of your regular group

meeting either way. Don't miss the opportunity here to possibly invite some of your group members non-Christian friends to join you as well. If they are friends of your member's they will want to help them also and this could be a great opportunity for them to see what it's like to be around Christians who are serving one another!

Following are some New Testament Scriptures that highlight **serving and Community**:

Matthew 20:25-28 (NIV)

²⁵ Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ²⁶ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ²⁷ and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— ²⁸ just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Philippians 2:3-9 (NIV)

³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

Galatians 5:13 (NIV)

¹³ You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. Matthew 10:42 or Mark?

Matthew 10:42 (NIV)

⁴² And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward."