



Group Leader Facilitator Guide

First of all THANK YOU for agreeing leading Greater Things content in your group this Fall! We're excited to see how God will change, challenge and grow each of us as we explore together how to live more open-handedly and sacrificially.

Your main source of content for your groups will be The **Message-Based Questions found in the Greater Things Series Guide**, and the **Weekend Message Recap Videos found on the LCBC Studies Page** (lcbcchurch.com/studies).

The purpose of this guide is to provide additional optional content to enhance your group experience!

Below you will find the following for each week of the Greater Things series:

- A suggested outline for how to conduct the group time
- Suggested activities and closing comments for each week
- Additional optional questions for certain focus areas including:
 - Women's Groups
 - Men's Groups
 - Couples Groups
 - Young Adults Groups

Thanks again for helping our church and the people who are a part of it experience the greater things God has in store for us!

Week 1 "Greater Mission"

Big Idea: *I have a part to play in God's plans.*

Welcome and Introduction (5 min):

Welcome people to the group, share a little about yourself with the goal of getting people to feel safe. As LCBC leaders, we model being real and relatable. Establish this by sharing a bit about your family make-up, your interests/hobbies, a little of your own faith journey, and/or a bit about why you serve as a Group Leader.

You can also share your hopes and goals for the group. That it is a safe place for people to connect: finding belonging, care, and accountability as you unpack the content together.

Opening Discussion (5 min):

Introduce yourself and share something you have that could be of use to others (try to think of something concrete like a skill, talent, spare room, mentoring time, financial margin, etc).

Scripture Reading (3 min): Acts 1

Weekend Recap Video (10 min)

Discussion (30–40 min): From questions provided in Series Guide booklet.

Activity Idea (10 min):

My Circles of Influence: Each person draws four concentric circles on a sheet of paper and labels each: "Jerusalem" (home/family), "Judea" (church/close community), "Samaria" ("others" in my community), "Ends of the Earth" (global). In each ring, write the name of one specific person or need God has put in front of you. Pair and share. If time, ask people to discuss the question: "Where are you already feeling "sent," and where do you sense God stretching you"?

Closing Comments and Prayer (2 min)

Much like Jesus' commission to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth, our church has big dreams about what God wants to do, and each of us has a part to play. We each have a calling, and need to ask ourselves what we're willing to offer for God's purposes, and how we can best join him in his mission.

Close in Prayer.

Week 1 Additional Questions

Women

1. AM I ENOUGH? Many women wrestle with feelings of inadequacy as mothers, wives, leaders, professionals, or friends. Mary offered what she had without worrying whether it was enough. What is an area of your life where you sometimes feel inadequate for what God might be asking of you? How might God see that differently than you do?
2. Are you holding on or pouring out? Mary poured out something valuable and personal at Jesus' feet. As women, we often carry responsibilities, expectations, and dreams very tightly. What is something you're finding difficult to surrender to God right now, and what makes it hard to release?

Men

1. Jesus didn't just save the disciples, he sent them. They were men on a mission! Where in your life have you settled for being saved but never stepped into being sent?
2. Jesus didn't just do great things, he promised his disciples they'd do even greater ones. What's one thing in your life right now that you sense is greater than yourself- a hill to take - something that will actually matter in 50 years?

Couples

1. What is the mission of your marriage? In what ways is your marriage connected to a purpose larger than your relationship? Where can you have a meaningful impact?
2. Every strong marriage is built around shared goals and priorities. What goals do you have as a couple? How do you keep those goals at the forefront of your relationship, and what sacrifices have been necessary to stay on track?

Young Adults

1. Do you feel like you have some sort of mission or purpose in life? Something that is bigger than yourself that you're working toward?
2. Imagine the last two years of your life were converted into a book. If people read that book what they know your mission and purpose in life?

Week 2 "Greater Community"

Big Idea: *We can't experience greater things in isolation.*

Welcome and Introduction (5 min)

Opening Discussion (5 min):

Have everyone choose a favorite picture from their phone that represents a moment or experience they shared with someone in their life. Go around (in pairs, around tables, or as a whole group) and tell the story of who they shared it with and why it is/was meaningful. **If they don't have a phone with pictures, they can describe a moment, person, or item.*

Scripture Reading (3 min): Acts 2:42-47

Weekend Recap Video (10 min)

Discussion (25-30 min): From questions provided in Series Guide booklet.

Activity Idea (10 min):

Distribute the list of "Some Needs Among Us." Have group members spend some time talking about ways the community could meet those needs. Encourage them not to see meeting these needs as the responsibility of the "church" – but instead, remind them that we are the church. How can we meet these needs? People may even discuss

Going Deeper: If it feels appropriate, have group members (anonymously) write on a notecard or scrap paper one need they have (could be emotional, spiritual, or practical/tangible). Collect the papers, shuffle them, and redistribute them randomly. Over the week ahead, ask people to pray for the person whose need they received.

Closing Comments and Prayer (2 min)

We can't experience greater things in isolation. The early church lived in close fellowship. In Acts 2, we see that generosity flowed freely throughout their community. If we're to say yes to the greater things God has for us, it's not going to happen outside of community. When we are in close relationships with one another, we're close enough to see need and be moved by compassion to meet those needs. We recognize that it's not all about us, we're held to accountability by those relationships.

Close in Prayer.

Week 2 Additional Questions

Women

1. Being Known. The early church shared their lives, not just their resources. What parts of yourself are easy to share with others, and what parts do you tend to keep hidden? What do you think makes genuine vulnerability so difficult?
2. If your closest friends described the version of community you're currently living in, would they say you're surviving alone, connected to a few people, or truly doing life alongside others? What makes you answer that way?

Men

1. Every man reaches limits, whether he admits it or not. Is there a guy close enough to your life to notice when you're struggling without being told, and have you given him permission to say something when he sees it?
2. The early church didn't just do life together, they noticed needs and moved on them without being asked twice. Is there a guy in your life right now you know is struggling, that you've been meaning to reach out to but haven't?

Couples

1. Who has permission to speak into your life and marriage? Do you have trusted people who can ask hard questions about your marriage and other areas of your life?
2. When you think about your skills, money, and time, what is the most difficult thing to share with others? Do you and your spouse find the same things challenging to share, or do your struggles differ?

Young Adults

1. Over the course of your life has it been easy or difficult finding friends who are really there for you? Why has it been easy or difficult?
2. We usually think of money or things when we talk about generosity. Do you think it's possible to be generous in how we reach out to others and form community? Have you been generous in that way?

Week 3 "Greater Boldness"

Big Idea: *When you walk with Jesus, your perspective starts to shift.*

Welcome and Introduction (5 min)

Opening Discussion (5 min):

Share a significant moment or person who had an impact on shifting one of your perspectives (could be in your job, in your parenting, in your marriage, life in general, etc).

Scripture Reading (3 min): Acts 4

Weekend Recap Video (10 min)

Discussion (25–30 min): From questions provided in Series Guide booklet.

Activity Idea (10 min):

"The Audit of Assets" (Perspective Mapping Exercise). Handout index cards and pens. Ask each person to write down 3 things they own, manage, or value (e.g., car, free time, retirement fund, collection, etc). Then, have participants share (in pairs, around tables, or as a whole group) one item on their list and discuss: *"How does my daily stress or generosity perspective change if I treat this as borrowed stewardship from God rather than personal ownership?"*

A step further: Use markers and write a large "C" over the items as a reminder that everything we have belongs to Christ.

If it's helpful, reread Acts 4:32 – *"No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own . . ."*

Closing Comments and Prayer (2 min)

Peter and John face opposition because of a miracle they did, and when the people saw their boldness they said "These men must have been walking with Jesus to be able to stand up to certain death." And the Holy Spirit moved in a mighty way, and you know what followed? People were moved to radical generosity, they started selling property and possessions. *When you walk with Jesus, your perspective starts to shift.* You see what actually matters and it changes how you view possessions – the temporary doesn't seem to matter as much. It's a complete posture change... the question becomes not "how much do you want me to keep", but "how much do you want me to give?" Close in Prayer.

Week 3 Additional Questions

Women

1. When you think about being bold for Jesus, what feels most intimidating in your current season of life? Is it speaking up, trusting God with a decision, being vulnerable, setting boundaries, or something else? What do you think is behind that fear?
2. Acts 4 shows that the believers' bold faith changed the way they viewed their possessions and security. What is something you're tempted to hold tightly to for a sense of control or security, and how might God be inviting you to trust Him with it?

Men

1. Peter and John had no wealth, no status, nothing that would normally earn respect, yet people respected them anyway, because they'd been with Jesus. What's something you've chased to feel like you matter, success, money, status, that maybe was never actually the source of your worth?
2. If you actually believed your worth came from being with Jesus instead of what you've chased, how would that change the way you live?

Couples

1. Where do you need boldness the most right now: in your career, marriage, other relationships, finances, parenting, or somewhere else? Where is God asking you to be bold as a couple right now?
2. When has God proven faithful after you took a risk together?

Young Adults

1. Generally, are you more of a bold person or cautious person? What specific areas are you more bold than other people?
2. As we've talked about greater things and being generous, where do you feel like the Holy Spirit might be leading you to become more bold?

Week 4 “Greater Transformation”

Big Idea: *Radical transformation leads to trust, surrender, and open-handed living.*

Welcome and Introduction (5 min)

Opening Discussion (5 min):

Share a time in your life when something significant changed something about you. Maybe something happened in your life that shifted your perspective, changed a relationship, altered a habit or the way you spent your time. What changed and what brought the change about?

**If that feels too vulnerable or intimidating, another option is to “share a time when you said you would never do something but eventually found yourself enjoying it.”*

Scripture Reading (3 min): Acts 9

Weekend Recap Video (10 min)

Discussion (25–30 min): From questions provided in Series Guide booklet.

Activity Idea (10 min):

Each person draws a quick pie chart of where his/her time, money, and energy currently go using the following categories: sleep, hobbies/time with friends and family, time with God, work, non-work tasks/errands/chores, fluff (scrolling, tv, etc). After giving them a few minutes to create that, have each person mark an “X” where he/she senses God inviting transformation. Share (in pairs, around tables, as a group) why that category was picked and what sort of “transformation” comes to mind.

Closing Comments and Prayer (2 min)

We are all lives changed by Christ. Some of you have experienced radical transformation. When Jesus changes your life – it changes everything. It flows out into every area of your life because Jesus invites you to live a life fully poured out – in your time, energy, talents, money, forgiveness, whatever. If you find yourself living close handed, with a scarcity mindset, you may need God to do some work of transformation in your heart – because what we treasure is the best indication of where our hearts’ affections lie. What greater transformation does God want to do in your life? Close in prayer.

Week 4 Additional Questions

Women

1. Many women feel pressure to appear strong, capable, and put together. Is there an area of your life where you're struggling to let God transform you because you're afraid of what others might think if they saw the real struggle?
2. Saul had a past that could have defined him forever, yet God gave him a new future. Are there labels, failures, regrets, or insecurities that you still carry that God may be asking you to release?

Men

1. Saul didn't just get a little better, he became a completely different man. What's an area of your life you've written off as "that's just how I am" that Jesus might actually want to change?
2. Saul's transformation touched everything, his time, his mission, his relationships, even his enemies. If Jesus fully transformed the way you handle your time and money, what would actually be different?

Couples

1. When life changes direction unexpectedly, how do you typically respond? Do you and your spouse tend to respond to change in similar ways, or do you approach it differently?
2. How has your marriage helped you grow as a person? What is one thing you've learned from your spouse? How can marriage help us become more like Christ?

Young Adults

1. How do you deal with change in life? Are you easily adaptable? Or do you have a hard time changing?
2. In your relationship with Jesus, what kind of changes have you embraced in order to follow Jesus more closely?

Week 5 "Greater Commitment"

Big Idea: *Present fulfillment and eternal impact are available by living a "poured-out" life.*

Welcome and Introduction (5 min)

Opening Discussion (5 min): When you die, share one thing you hope people say about you when remembering you with others.

Scripture Reading (3 min): Acts 20

Weekend Recap Video (10 min)

Discussion (25–30 min): From questions provided in Series Guide booklet.

Activity Idea (10 min):

Silent reflection (you may choose to play calm, quiet music during this activity). Give them a few minutes to pray or silently reflect on the following questions:

- What currently gets the best of my time, energy, attention, and resources?
- What am I most committed to?
- If I could be known for one thing with my life, what would I want it to be?

Then, give people the paper with the two hands on it (see next page). Ask them to write their thoughts in relation to each hand on the paper. Encourage participants to be *specific*, thinking through categories like... *family, work, money, hobbies, comfort, relationships, church, reputation, worry, busyness, etc.*

OR

Give everyone a card or half-sheet of paper with the following written on it (see last page):

If I want to finish well...

- One thing I need to keep doing is ____.
- One thing I need to start doing is ____.
- One thing I need to stop doing is ____.
- One person I need to invest in is ____.
- One thing I want to be remembered for is ____.

Give them 5–7 minutes to quietly reflect and write; Then ask: *Which one of those five would make the biggest difference if you actually followed through?*

Closing Comments and Prayer (2 min)

In Acts, Paul places a huge emphasis on the eternal impact and fulfillment of living a poured-out life. What are you living your life for? What are you committed to? Where are you finding your meaning and purpose? When you live a life poured out for the work and purposes of God, you live a life worth living. In the same way that Paul lived a life entirely committed to seeing the good news of Jesus spread throughout the world and it was his greatest joy, we are invited into greater commitment, greater surrender to the work God wants to do in our world. It's us saying, I will live with open hands. I will go where you want me to go, I will give what you're asking me to give. That's a life poured out, a life of greater commitment.

Close in prayer.

Week 5 Additional Questions

Women

1. As women, we often juggle many responsibilities and expectations. What is one area of your life where God may be inviting you to surrender more fully to His plans and purposes, and what is holding you back from that greater commitment?
2. When you think about the legacy you want to leave for your family, friends, and community, what do you hope people will remember most about your faith and relationship with Jesus? What steps can you take today to begin building that legacy?

Men

1. Paul knew prison and suffering were waiting for him, and he went anyway because the mission mattered more than his own safety. What's something you know God's calling you toward that you've avoided because it would cost you your comfort?
2. Paul knew something most men never learn: comfort is empty compared to God's economy. How much of that do you actually believe, and how much are you still figuring out?

Couples

1. What commitments are most important to protect in this season of marriage? How do you intentionally prioritize your marriage amid work, parenting, and other responsibilities?
2. In Acts 20, Paul reflects on the legacy he hopes to leave behind. As a couple, what kind of legacy are you building? How intentional are you about that legacy? In one or two sentences, describe what you hope people will remember most about your marriage.

Young Adults

1. As we follow Jesus often, God will call us to certain commitments to the church and other people. What are the commitments that God has called you to in serving his church?
2. As we consider what greater things God can do with us over these next few years, where do you feel like God is calling you into commitment?