



Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! *Ecclesiastes 4:9-10*

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for handwriting practice or general writing. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.

ONE YEAR NEW TESTAMENT	SUNDAY 1 Cor. 9:1-18	MONDAY 1 Cor. 9:19-10:13	TUESDAY 1 Cor. 10:14-11:1
this week	august 14	august 15	august 16
WEDNESDAY 1 Cor. 11:2-16	THURSDAY 1 Cor. 11:17-34	FRIDAY 1 Cor. 12:1-26	SATURDAY 1 Cor. 12:27-13:13
august 17	august 18	august 19	august 20
WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE HEBREWS 3:13			



## For Group Discussion

Answer these questions prior to your Small Group meeting this week.

### Introduction

In the midst of our crowded existence, many people live lonely lives. We all live and work in a sea of humanity, but some end up missing out on the benefits of regular, meaningful relationships. You may have sensed this need when you first joined a small group. Today, we will look into our own group experience to determine how effective we are at protecting each other against the threats that come when we live in isolation.

### Discussion Questions

1. Danny said, "Casual relationships are not life-giving." What does that mean? Do you agree or disagree? Why?
2. Based on your experience in this group, how would you rate each of the four benefits of small group mentioned in the talk?  
(1 being the lowest, 5 being the highest)

In this group I know that I am loved.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

Explain why and give one example:

This group has regularly provided me with new perspectives, leading me toward godly wisdom.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

Explain why and give one example:

Specific accountability in this group has kept me from drifting away from God.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

Explain why and give one example:

I regularly lean into the members of this group to find strength beyond my own.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

Explain why and give one example:

## Small Group Questions Continued

3. Based on the collective responses, which of the four benefits of small group do you believe we need to work on most? Share one idea for how our group could begin to meet this need in a practical way.
4. Which of the four benefits of small group do you need the most in your life right now?

What specific steps will you take to meet the needs of each member of our group in the coming week?

## OUTREACH: GROUPS IN ACTION

### OUR CHURCH

Come and help us caffeinate those who attend our weekend services by joining the Host Team. On the Host Team, you will be included in a group of people who are scheduled to keep the welcome warm and the coffee hot. If you are interested or need more information, contact Martha Neidenberger at [mneidenberger@eclife.org](mailto:mneidenberger@eclife.org).

### OUR COMMUNITY

The Refuge needs your help providing meals for people in need. Each week the Refuge provides meals for single moms, elderly couples, or family/individuals who have recently experienced a tragedy. Something as simple as a hot meal can help relieve some stress and pressure from someone who could use a break. Your small group can help by preparing some home-cooked meals. For more information, contact Kerry Jones at [kjones@eclife.org](mailto:kjones@eclife.org).

### OUR WORLD

Emmanuel will be part of a women's conference in Nicaragua August 25-28, and there are two ways you can help. First, commit to pray for the team who will travel to share God's love to more than 1,000 conference attendees. Secondly, gift bags with small lotions, small note pads, sunglasses, and various other small items will be given to many who attend the conference. If you would like to purchase and donate any of these items, contact Kerry Jones at [kjones@eclife.org](mailto:kjones@eclife.org).

## Action Step

Fill in the blanks below for this upcoming week.

My action steps are \_\_\_\_\_.

I'm accountable for \_\_\_\_\_, and their action steps are \_\_\_\_\_.

My memory verse is \_\_\_\_\_.

This coming week, I'm praying for: