

## Weekend Message Small Group Study

- complementing the sermon given at St. Paul on **1/23/16-1/24/16**.
- a meeting agenda organized per St. Paul core values
- estimated for a 90-minute meeting



### STRETCH – WEEK 3 (OF 5)

**Equipping** “the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ”—Eph. 4:12

Below is a tool to help delegate the leading/facilitating of meeting components between different small group members.

	Prayer (p.4)	Outreach (p.3)	Word of God (p.2)	Equipping (p. 4)	Worship - Our Redemption Response - (p.2)
Study component leader					

**Prayer leader** – Leads group prayer time

**Outreach leader** – Leads the charge of outreach (serving, inviting, filling the empty chair, etc.)

**Word of God leader** – Leads the Bible study time, encourages application of God’s Word to life

**Equipping Leader** – Coordinates and reminds who will lead the different meeting components.

**Worship (Our Redemption Response) Leader** – Leads worship time during meeting.

## Worship – Our Redemption Response

5 minutes

Psalm 146 Read Responsively

Worship leader: Praise the LORD.

**All: Praise the LORD, O my soul.**

Worship leader: I will praise the LORD all my life;

**All: I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.**

Worship leader: Do not put your trust in princes,

**All: in mortal men, who cannot save.**

Worship leader: When their spirit departs, they return to the ground;

**All: on that very day their plans come to nothing.**

Worship leader: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

**All: whose hope is in the LORD his God,**

Worship leader: the Maker of heaven and earth,

**All: the sea, and everything in them—**

Worship leader: the LORD, who remains faithful forever.

**All: He upholds the cause of the oppressed**

Worship leader: and gives food to the hungry.

**All: The LORD sets prisoners free,**

Worship leader: the LORD gives sight to the blind,

**All: the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down,**

Worship leader: the LORD loves the righteous.

**All: The LORD watches over the alien**

Worship leader: and sustains the fatherless and the widow,

**All: but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.**

Worship leader: The LORD reigns forever,

**All: your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD. Amen.**

## Word of God

45 minutes

1. How did you SEE God at work in your life this week?

2. What has God been teaching you in HIS WORD?

3. Read Luke 6:38 (ESV):

“give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”

and the NLT version:

“Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back.”

Based on this verse, what blessings does generosity lead us to?

4. In your teenage years, who in your life did you find most generous and why?
5. How are we most like children of God when we give?
6. How do you see generosity leading us to greater dependency on God?
7. In what areas of generosity do you have the most room to grow? Where may you be storing up treasures for yourself? How can we as a group help one another in these areas of growth?

## Outreach

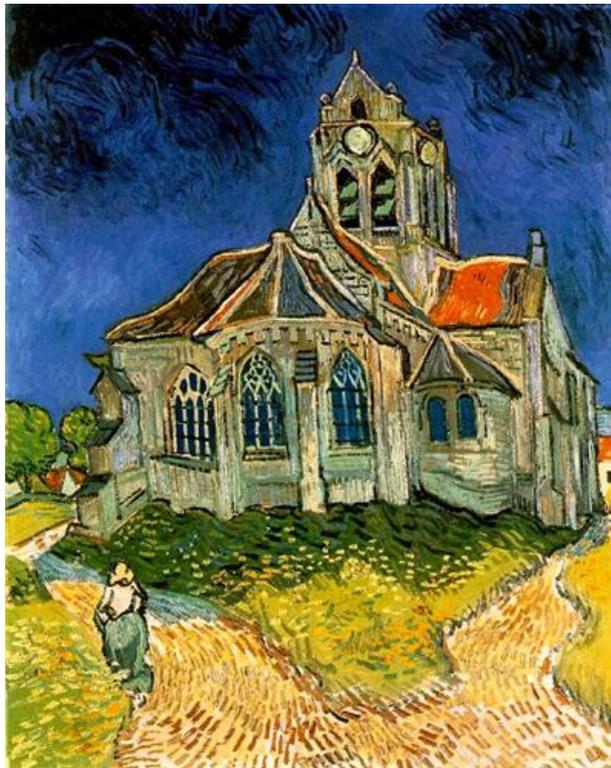
15 minutes

*Your assignment last week was:*

Next time you are there, on the outside of your church spend some time looking back at [insert the name of your church], either up close or from a distance. As you look, ask God to show you how you could better reflect his light to the people you come into contact with. Pray for his help to make the church even more of a welcoming and un-intimidating place, a place where someone like van Gogh, with all his complexities and issues, would feel accepted and at home. At our **next meeting**, let's report back our findings to one another.

Let's do that right now. Let's report our findings to one another.

What are tangible ways us as individuals and as a small group can help make the church an even more welcoming and un-intimidating place where all would feel accepted and at home?



**Prayer**

**20 minutes**

Share a prayer request based on what was discussed during this meeting's *Word of God* and/or *Outreach* time. What is that next step in your faith life God is calling you to make? What convicted you from God's Word and/or our discussion of His Word? Please also share a way in which the group may support/encourage you regarding what you've shared. Of course other important matters can be prayed about as well. After all have shared, pray for the person on your left (whether aloud or silently). Pray together.

**Equipping** *for coordinating next week's meeting...*

**5 minutes**

	Prayer	Outreach	Word of God	Equipping	Worship - Our Redemption Response
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In St. Paul's Narthex (lobby), sign up for either or both *Stretch* next steps:



host home meetings

