



PRAY

Ask God to stir the hearts of your people to want to reconnect with their Bible study groups this fall.

LEARN

Get informed about how recent events are impacting the local church with [Lifeway Research](#). Take the [ChurchNext Survey with Auxano](#) and get practical wisdom and insight from the survey itself.

SET AN OFFICIAL DATE FOR THE RELAUNCH

Determine a day (or one month for a month-long emphasis) in which you will stress the importance of people re-engaging in your church's Bible study groups. You may want to do both—set a day for an official relaunch, but continue the emphasis for several weeks.

ORDER YOUR FALL 2021 CURRICULUM

[Create or review your Lifeway order](#). Be sure to provide each adult, student, and child with Personal Study Guides.

PROMOTE THE RELAUNCH DATE

Include this information everywhere you can, such as the worship guide, website, announcements, Facebook page, letters, emails, and Twitter.

REVIEW YOUR CHURCH'S WEBSITE AND PRINT PROMOTIONAL PIECES

Make sure that messaging about the relaunch is consistent and that people have the information needed about the relaunch.

ASSESS YOUR TEACHING MINISTRY

Determine how many group leaders you will need to recruit for your fall 2021 relaunch by conducting a survey to see how many current group leaders plan to continue leading a group. Consider that you may have to replace group leaders who do not return to lead a group, plus the leaders needed for new groups that should be started.

SET A DATE FOR GROUP LEADER TRAINING

Try to find a time on the church calendar when this event does not compete with anything else.

SELECT THE TOPIC OF YOUR GROUP LEADER TRAINING

We recommend the free eBook, *3 Roles for Guiding Groups*, [available here](#). Of course, you can ask group leaders or determine your own topic.



BEGIN RECRUITING NEW GROUP LEADERS

See the document "How to Have All the Volunteers You Need" for tips on best practices for recruiting new leaders. This free training resource is a great place to start on this highly important issue.

SCHEDULE A WORKDAY

Invite groups to clean their on-campus rooms and other members to clean the outside of the church and the church grounds. This day will build enthusiasm and camaraderie among the congregation.





START MAKING CALLS

Instruct group leaders to begin calling or texting every group member and prospect with an invitation to connect with their group on your church's relaunch date. Considering providing a checklist of talking points for them as well.

COMMUNICATE WEEKLY WITH YOUR CONGREGATION

Use email and social media to remind people about the upcoming emphasis on regathering groups. Include all prospects, also.

PREACH A SERIES OF SERMONS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF GROUPS

Focus attention on the importance of being in community and studying God's Word together.

CONDUCT YOUR TRAINING EVENT

Select an appropriate time to train your group leaders. You might also consider a virtual event, and don't forget about that free training your leaders can do on their own time!

SCHEDULE A TIME FOR PERSONAL TESTIMONIES IN THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Leading up to the relaunch of your groups, interview one person or couple each Sunday for 5 minutes, asking them, "What do you like best about your Bible study group? Why would you recommend people consider meeting together in a group? How has your group blessed your life?"



CONDUCT A COMMISSIONING SERVICE

The goal is to publicly acknowledge the calling of lay leaders to teach God's Word, to call the church to pray for them, and to remind the congregation that groups are vital to the church's strategy to disciple people.

SEND A FINAL EMAIL TO YOUR MEMBERS AND GUESTS

Just when you are tired of the message, someone in your church hears it for the first time! Send one final encouragement for people to make attending a group a top priority for themselves or their family.

CONTINUE PRAYING FOR GOD TO BRING HIS PEOPLE BACK TOGETHER

Proverbs 21:31 says, "A horse is prepared for the day of battle, but victory comes from the Lord." Hard work and preparation are requirements any time we attempt great things for God, but without God in the midst, our efforts are in vain. Pray that your 90 days of preparation will be honoring to the Lord, and that He will give you success as you regather and relaunch your Bible study groups.

**CHURCH
ON.**

For more resources, go to lifeway.com/churchon.