

Life Hacks

Life Group Leaders Guide

Objective

This guide contains the information and questions you will need to lead a life group study during our current sermon series. Our aim is to spark Spirit-led, Bible-centered conversations that anyone can participate in regardless of how biblically literate they may or may not be. **The win** that we want you to experience is when your group members **connect** more closely with each other and with God so that they are encouraged to move forward in living out their faith.

Directions

The *Purpose* and *Move* sections are for the leader to read to the group to provide clarity. **Do not feel pressured to cover all the questions.** Decide which ones may work best for your group. You will see brief notes interspersed between groups of questions to help give the group context for their answers. The *Notes and Commentary* section (when included) is optional reading for the leader to get background information and better understanding of the passages before leading the discussion.

Series Overview

Life Hacks: Strategies or ideas adopted in order to solve everyday problems in an inspired, ingenious manner. More simply, uncommon solutions to common problems. Having trouble opening sealed plastic packaging, try using a can opener. Want to fix a scratched DVD, simply rub a banana peel on it. Life hacks are simple, creative, and very effective. But this concept of life hacks isn't a new idea. In this new series, we will look at several times in the bible where Jesus gives us uncommon solutions to some of our most common problems.

Life Hacks Series Schedule

Week	Sermon Date	Topic
1	8/11/19	Work
2	8/18/19	Time
3	8/25/19	Sex
4	9/1/19	(GROUP SOCIALS)

The Point Church Life Group Curriculum

Time

The Big Idea

Change your calendar.

Flow of Study

Icebreaker: What would you say are, in order, the top two or three priorities in your life?

Move #1: Let's begin the discussion with some questions unpacking this Sunday's sermon.

1. What stood out most to you from the message this weekend about how we can make the most of our time?

Move #2: Let's read part of Psalm 39 that focuses our attention on the preciousness of time.

Read Psalm 39:4-7 (NIV)

4 Show me, Lord, my life's end

and the number of my days;

let me know how fleeting my life is.

5 You have made my days a mere handbreadth;

the span of my years is as nothing before you.

Everyone is but a breath,

even those who seem secure.

6 Surely everyone goes around like a mere phantom;

in vain they rush about, heaping up wealth

without knowing whose it will finally be.

7 But now, Lord, what do I look for?

My hope is in you.

2. Every experience, relationship or attainment in life costs time and energy, and sometimes money. Which of these resources is most precious, and why?
3. How can coming to grips with the blurring speed at which our lives pass by motivate us to maximize the time we have?
4. React to the statement: "It's not a matter of having enough time; it's a matter of having the right priorities." Why do you agree or disagree?
5. The psalmist gives one example of a commonly misplaced priority in verse 6. How do you go about gaining clarity about what is really worth your time?

Move #3: Next, let's take a look at a moment in the life of Joseph in which we have a great example of discerning the time and using it well. Let's listen to how he advises the King of Egypt.

Read Genesis 41:28-36 (NIV)

28 "It is just as I said to Pharaoh: God has shown Pharaoh what he is about to do. 29 Seven years of great abundance are coming throughout the land of Egypt, 30 but seven years of famine will follow them. Then all the abundance in Egypt will be forgotten, and the famine will ravage the land. 31 The abundance in the land will not be remembered, because the famine that follows it will be so severe. 32 The reason the dream was given to Pharaoh in two forms is that the matter has been firmly decided by God, and God will do it soon.

33 "And now let Pharaoh look for a discerning and wise man and put him in charge of the land of Egypt. 34 Let Pharaoh appoint commissioners over the land to take a fifth of the harvest of Egypt during the seven years of abundance. 35 They should collect all the food of these good years that are coming and store up the grain under the authority of Pharaoh, to be kept in the cities for food. 36 This food should be held in reserve for the country, to be used during the seven years of famine that will come upon Egypt, so that the country may not be ruined by the famine."

6. How did Joseph advise they make the most of the prosperous season they were entering?
7. How are you using your time in this current season to prepare yourself for the next?
8. Joseph is very much in tune with God's guidance in the use of time. How does your relationship with God factor into the way you prioritize your time?

Read Genesis 41:56-57 NIV

56 When the famine had spread over the whole country, Joseph opened all the storehouses and sold grain to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe throughout Egypt. 57 And all the world came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph, because the famine was severe everywhere.

9. How did Joseph make the most of the time when the famine came?
10. How might we make the most of our time even in the hard seasons of our lives?

Next Steps: The following are things you could challenge your members to do in order to take what you studied in this curriculum farther.

1. Read and reflect on Matthew 22:37-40. Look at your schedule and do the "God and others" test: How am I utilizing the gift of time to love God and love others?
2. Consider: What are you saying yes to that is causing you to say no to these more important things?
3. Pray each morning, "God thank you for the time you are giving me today. Show me how I can best use it. I surrender my schedule to you and give you permission to redirect me as you wish."

Prayer: End your study with a time of praying with and for each other. Take requests, but be sure to pray also about what you've discussed today.

Notes and Commentary

The following are pieces of commentary, facts, and links based on the passages of this study in order. Use them to help supplement your group time or for your personal preparation.