

# LIFE GROUP GUIDE

## SHARE

1. In honor of Valentine's Day, what's your favorite chocolate treat?
2. Describe a joyful person you know. What stands out when you think about them?

## STUDY

3. Share an experience that was initially challenging or painful but eventually brought joy.
4. Read John 16:16-18. Where else in scripture do we see the disciples get confused? (Briefly search through Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John) Have you felt confused while trying to understand Jesus? How do we effectively find our way through confusion to satisfaction in Jesus?
5. Read John 16:20-22. List reasons why the disciples may be filled with sorrow. Why is it necessary to mourn or experience great sadness?
6. Have you ever let anyone or anything take away your joy (v. 22)? How was your joy restored? How do you explain your joy if someone notices it in you?
7. What type of goals do we typically turn to in order to make life better (i.e. job, relationship, house, etc.)? What step will you take this week to put your hope in Christ instead?

## DIGGING DEEPER

8. Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-11. What is encouraging about the imagery of treasure in jars of clay? What makes you hesitant about this passage? How do these verses inspire trust in Jesus Christ?
9. How have you seen God use a struggle or weakness as a way to demonstrate his power? What do these observations tell us about God?
10. Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. How would you explain to a spiritual explorer that the troubles of this world are "light and momentary" when compared to eternity? What examples from your own life would you use to explain how and why you keep an eternal perspective?

## SUPPORT

11. John 16:16-24 describes the beginning of a bold move of spiritual growth for the disciples. In what ways do you see your bold move of spiritual growth developing? Share and encourage one another to keep persevering.

## SERVE

If you'd like more information about these opportunities, email [serve@valley.church](mailto:serve@valley.church).

- Five meals still needed for Single Mom's Group
- Volunteer at Third Friday - February 21
- Try a first serve opportunity with Guest Experience
- Chapel Ridge Food Pantry - Ongoing

# COMMUNITY BRIDGES

## Third Friday (Friday, February 21)

Check out the Valley Community Center the third Friday of each month. We're celebrating our neighbors by inviting them to special FREE activities and classes. Volunteer to help or invite a neighbor, coworker, or friend to come check it out with you!

## Father & Son Activity Time

(Saturday, February 29 from 3-5 pm)

Hey dads! join us for an unplugged, fun event, where you and your son (1st - 8th grade) can share intentional time together with games and some friendly competition. Invite another dad-son duo to join you!

## Valley Community Center Volunteers

Connect with guests and meet new friends at the Valley Community Center! We're looking for volunteers to help us in many different ways:

- **Spring Break week volunteers (March 16-20):** There are a lot of new visitors at the VCC during spring break week! We will need extra help that entire week to greet visitors, run programming, and maintain our building.
- **Daily activity volunteers**
- **Marketing efforts**
- **Ongoing building operations, maintenance, and cleaning**

These are just a few volunteer needs we have at the VCC. There are so many more! If you're interested, sign up on the community card or email Lisa at [lisal@valleycommunitycenterdm.com](mailto:lisal@valleycommunitycenterdm.com).

# GOOD NEWS

FOR A CHANGE

## WELCOME TO VALLEY

FEBRUARY 15 & 16

We are so glad you could celebrate with us today. If you are new to Valley, visit the atrium for a **Meet and Greet**. We'd love to meet you and give you a gift.

**NEXT** (Sunday, March 1, from 8:15 am-12:15 pm at the Valley Community Center)

Want to discover how to get more involved at Valley Church? Become a member? NEXT is a one-day course to learn about our vision and values and to find your purpose and place at Valley Church! Breakfast and childcare provided. Sign up on the community card or at [valley.church/next](http://valley.church/next).

**Life Group Connecting Dinner** (Monday, March 9 at 6:30 pm)

Would you like to make friends and experience authentic community? Then join us for a fun evening of fellowship and delicious food. Mike & Jess Alexander are excited to have you come and are accepting new members in their life group. Space is limited, so sign up today on your community card or email [susans@valley.church](mailto:susans@valley.church). Childcare is available.

**Valley U** (Sunday, February 23 at 6:30 pm)

Join us for our second session of Valley U classes! Topics include:

- Leadership RSVP – respond to God's invitation to grow your leadership at home, work, church, and community
- The 7 Deadly Worldviews – understand the worldviews in competition with Christianity in American culture
- Grandparenting Matters – engaging the incredible potential to spiritually influence your grandchildren.

Pick a class and invite a friend!

**The Valley Church Parent Podcast**

We've created a brand-new podcast for parents of 6th-12th grade students, called the Valley Church Parent Podcast! Subscribe today at [valley.church/parentpodcast](http://valley.church/parentpodcast) and listen to our weekly 20-30 minute episodes on your mobile device.

MOBILIZING EVERYONE'S GOD-GIVEN POTENTIAL TO DEEPLY LOVE CHRIST AND THEIR NEIGHBORS.

515-226-9973 • [VALLEY.CHURCH](http://valley.church)

GOOD NEWS FOR A CHANGE

## JOY NO ONE CAN TAKE AWAY

JOHN 16:16-24

1. Joy Comes from the Resurrection of Jesus

2. Joy Comes from the Holy Spirit

3. Joy Comes from Our Relationship with our Heavenly Father