



LiFe Seminar

Introduction

LiFe
Life Fully experienced



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Where only male word forms are used, women are implicitly included.
Further information at: life-seminar.world



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Steps to Successful Evangelism

Many churches are currently integrating young Christians into church life by welcoming them through successful LiFe seminars. This short description paves the way for Christians and churches to successfully conduct evangelism Seminars. However, the way is sometimes longer than originally anticipated... It is quite possible that a first go at hosting a LiFe seminar may not lead to the expected results... At such a point one must ask, should we turn back? Or do we believe that the first attempt was an important step in the right direction and that further **steps** forward will eventually lead us **to the desired results**? It is worthwhile to “hang in there” and carry on, leading to the permanent set up of two or even four LiFe seminars a year as an integral part of the **church’s evangelistic efforts**.

The Lord clearly stated and commanded: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

(Matthew 28:18-20)

If we want to faithfully fulfil Jesus’ command and if we are aware of **his presence and our dependence on him** then it must be possible to successfully **train people to become disciples**! This is exactly what we have experienced and this is the reason why we have compiled this short manual describing the necessary steps toward consistent and successful evangelism and the making of disciples.



STEPS TO SUCCESSFUL EVANGELISM

LiFe seminars help missionary minded Christians (companions) to accompany family members, friends or acquaintances (guests) in the decision-making phase to live a life with Jesus Christ. At the core of this **evangelistic project** are five interesting meeting events which are hosted in a guesthouse or a suitable room of the church. In this way companions have the opportunity of accompanying several guests each year, leading them to choose a life with Jesus Christ. Newly converted individuals themselves become very soon companions for their friends and family members by participating in other LiFe seminars and over the years grow spiritually to fulfil other duties in church life. The success of LiFe seminars is attributed to the **combination of** known elements in the areas of **evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.**

This short LiFe seminar manual has also been made to enable all those who have little practise in evangelism. Without a doubt, we are completely dependent on the **sovereign work of the Holy Spirit** when we evangelize. If we keep this in mind as we read this short description and carefully implement the plan step by step, then we certainly are on the right track!

The structure of this introduction follows the overview in the middle of the manual.



Basic LiFe Seminar Principles

Evangelism

Only the best for our guests!

Experience has shown that it is very important to accompany people in a loving and personal way, if they are to come to a personal faith in Jesus Christ as their Saviour. It is for this reason that we make sure that **each guest has a companion at his or her side**. Personal assistance is one of the hallmarks of first-class hotels or airlines. This is also cherished by guests of a LiFe seminar. We show our appreciation by helping them find their way around in this new world of faith in God and later within the local Christian church.

We deliberately hold LiFe seminars in a beautiful room at a guesthouse or at the church. It is worth looking for a suitable room, where the guests feel comfortable. A Seminar with five topics fits into the life of our guests just as another short training course. Presentations are common in the business world, at the university or at school. We show the Gospel in a **modern format**. Pictures, key texts and **exciting testimonies** help our guests understand the **essence of the Gospel**. Pausing for a week between the meetings, allow the guests to digest and deepen their understanding of the biblical messages.

The LiFe leader and the companions enable a **warm and accepting environment** by being receptive to one another and to the guests. During the five meetings a sense of joyful community develops and after the fifth meeting we frequently hear people say, “Is the LiFe seminar already over?” Our reply is, “Not at all, we continue to meet every week at our local church for services and in our small groups.”



Discipleship

Church members discover their call to discipleship and empowerment as companions.

Many Christians are troubled by the fact that spreading the Gospel is not sufficiently effective, that not enough people are being saved, and that not enough new converts join our churches. Why? Because not enough Christians have discovered their **call and empowerment to discipleship!** This lack can be corrected, for our risen Lord not only meets our guests during a LiFe seminar: He also reaches out to those Christians who cautiously make first experiences at being companions! Jesus said, *“Go and make disciples of all nations”* and *“See I am always with you until the end of time”*. Those who wholeheartedly want to “make disciples” will be taught and directed by the Lord himself.

That is why we mobilize active Christians within the local church to **serve as companions**. When they experience how someone they know accepts an invitation to a LiFe seminar, attends the first meeting and begins to share concerns and personal problems, then companions change. They experience the assistance and **preparation through the Holy Spirit** for God’s great harvest. When a guest decides to receive Jesus Christ into his or her life and six months later accompanies another friend to a LiFe seminar, then the companion slowly but surely discovers the enormous dynamism of discipleship!



Church Growth

A functioning small group system which takes the call to evangelism and discipleship seriously.

LiFe seminars require that active Christians meet weekly in a well led **small group**. Of course, the five LiFe seminar meetings are not enough for the guests to receive a thorough introduction to faith in Jesus Christ. LiFe seminars are positioned as a limited **evangelistic tool** that has to be seen in a larger context. Looking at revival history, we learn that the Church of Jesus Christ only experiences long-term and sustained growth, if discipleship and evangelism are permanently supported and promoted by the activities of small groups.

Of course, LiFe seminars can also be hosted where **small group activities** are not yet established. Committed companions and newly converted guests can be won over to establish small groups.

Consequently, within a few years a church can be revitalized through LiFe seminars and small groups. In the same way, a newly founded church can experience within a short time a solid development and dynamic growth.

This introduction should help to quickly and comprehensively understand the LiFe seminar project. We have chronologically listed the **crucial steps** so that LiFe seminars can, over the years, sustainably change a local church and be helpful for development in the following areas:

1. Spiritual growth of newly converted people and their integration into church life.
2. Spiritual growth of all participating Christians.





10 Steps to Implement a Local LiFe Seminar



1st Step: Decision at the Church Leadership Level

LiFe seminars can only develop their full potential if they are being supported and directed by the church leadership. LiFe seminars can bear **sustainable fruit** in a quite different way than conventional evangelistic projects such as traditional evangelistic events, which concentrate on short-term results. We do not say that LiFe seminars are better than traditional evangelistic events. LiFe seminars combine the essential elements of evangelism, discipleship and church growth in one project which is supposed to develop continually. “LiFe” is also suitable as a follow-up to an evangelistic event. The five meetings can, of course, be classified as “mini evangelistic events”. LiFe’s aim is not just to host one Seminar but to **continually host** one or more Seminars a year.

Once the church leadership decides to host LiFe seminars, **longterm consequences** should be taken in consideration. Naturally, a LiFe seminar can be considered as a “test case” and every church can determine the number of LiFe seminars it wants to host. It has to be noted however that conducting successful LiFe seminars require **quite a lot of know-how** and experience. In our training sessions we gladly pass on this know-how. There are a large number of churches that have conducted very successful initial LiFe seminars after going through a LiFe Multiplication Training.



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Unfortunately, there are other examples that can be summarised in a simple formula: **insufficient training – insufficient results**. It is definitely worthwhile that each church carefully plans and thoroughly prepares the first LiFe seminar! Each LiFe seminar is in a certain sense a “training seminar”. Lots of examples show that churches that keep at it, increasingly experience positive results with LiFe seminars.

If the church leadership decides to go ahead with LiFe seminars, then it should be in view of ensuring that they are implemented as a sustainable and long-term means to address evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.

A kick-off meeting marks the official start of the LiFe project. During this meeting the church leadership talks about the ten steps and sets dates for their implementation. As far as the five LiFe meetings are concerned, it is sufficient at that point to define a time window (e.g. end of October until end of November). The church leadership chooses a project leader and makes clear that this person is being backed. This leader should be accepted within the church and have organizational abilities.



2nd Step: Sharing the Vision

The vision should be conveyed by a leader with a charismatic personality and a heart to save lost people. Normally, this is done by the pastor or a project leader. The whole church should be motivated and mobilized for the planned LiFe seminar. Also of importance is an efficient and thorough communication of the course of action for the LiFe seminar and the preparations during the coming weeks. Videos, presentations and successful LiFe seminar testimonials help attendees understand the vision and process of the LiFe seminar. Oftentimes, a sermon series on the five LiFe topics has proved effective. When the vision is shared, people should be able to take home printed information.

Experience suggests the following: The sharing of the vision is needed for each new LiFe seminar. When we started with LiFe seminars, we made the mistake of not including this meeting each time. We thought we could save time as we assumed that Christians knew by now what a LiFe seminar is about, and that they would automatically start to invite guests. This did not happen! Often, LiFe seminars had to be cancelled due to a lack of participants when the meeting that shares the vision and the fishing net prayer did not take place.

Important: Each LiFe seminar has to have its own vision sharing meeting two to six months before the first seminar meeting in the guesthouse.

Should this meeting be an additional, separate event or part of a Sunday church service? Experience suggests that every church has a number of possibilities. If one decides to have a separate meeting,



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additional efforts are necessary to mobilize enough attendees for this occasion.

We recommend that the **sharing of the vision** should be done during a main **church service**, or another important fixed date such as a **church prayer meeting or small group meeting**. LiFe seminars require less space and prominence than traditional evangelistic events. However, it lies in the hands of the church leadership to communicate the importance of LiFe seminars in such a way that the mission minded church members are mobilized.



3rd Step: Finding Small Group Hosts

We suggest that a small group, alone or in collaboration with other small groups, hosts the LiFe seminar. For five weeks it will be involved in the LiFe seminar instead of the usual small group program. The preceding fishing net prayer will strengthen their vision for friends and acquaintances who do not yet know Jesus personally.

If a small group is burning to **save people** and boldly invites them, it can work! Learning to formulate an experience report is a blessing for the members of a small group and a great benefit for daily life beyond a particular LiFe seminar. The LiFe topics are also an encouragement for people who have already been Christians for a longer time. A well-prepared LiFe seminar is definitely a benefit to the small group, even if they do not have an own guest attending!



4th Step: Training

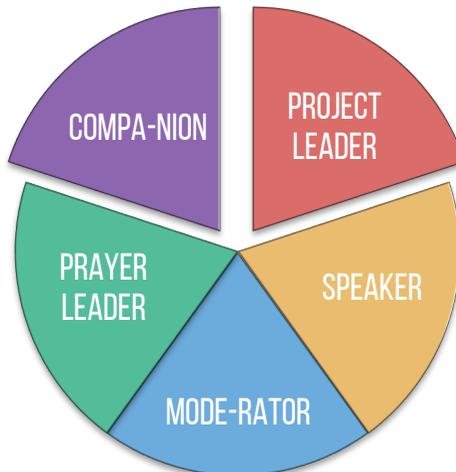


There are a number of ways how LiFe seminar leaders and companions can be trained. We regularly offer a course called “LiFe Multiplication Training”. It has this name because whole churches are trained and teams are formed that can multiply themselves.

Normally, the LiFe training is at the local church. Because all the training units are available online, it can easily be prepared. The training has three sections:

- Friday evening: Sharing the vision for the whole church
- Saturday morning: Implementation for all those interested in LiFe
- Saturday afternoon: Planning the project as a LiFe team

In these LiFe teams it is decided who takes on which roles and duties. The following **tasks** have to be done in a professional manner in order for a LiFe seminar to succeed:





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The Five Functions in a LiFe Seminar

A. Project Leader

Once the church leadership has decided to organize LiFe seminars it chooses a project leader. This leader will have the overview and is fully responsible for the implementation of a local LiFe seminar.

The project leader is responsible for:

- Organization for the sharing of the vision
- Reviewing and clarifying the agenda with the church leadership and the LiFe team
- Making the necessary guesthouse reservation
- Creating an invitation flyer for the next LiFe seminar
- Organizing the fishing net prayer
- Putting together and updating the prayer list, leading the fishing net prayer
- Collecting guest and companion registrations and compiling a corresponding list
- Writing confirmations of registration to guests and companions
- Planning and conducting the briefing
- Coordinating intercession during the LiFe meetings
- Responsibility for the LiFe meetings (incl. technical setup, name cards, Bibles, documentation ...)
- Determine and communicate the date of the next LiFe seminar
- Organizing and conducting the debriefing after the Seminar
- Evaluation with the church leadership
- Feed back to the LiFe bureau
- Planning the sharing of the vision approximately three months before start of the next Seminar



B. Speaker

The speaker presents the five themes of the LiFe seminar. He must be gifted as a lecturer and have social skills. He is the contact person for both the guests and the companions. In order to keep the spiritual focus, he needs to have a certain pastoral calling and talent. Smaller churches will have the best results if their pastor is the LiFe speaker. The speaker can also be the project leader if his workload permits. With time, other project leaders and speakers can be introduced. In this way gifted Christians grow in their calling and multiplication happens.

C. Moderator

The moderator is equally important for the success of the five meetings as the speaker. He greets the companions and guests, leads the individual introductions as well as the session following the speaker's presentation.

It is his responsibility that both guests and companions feel comfortable. He leads the conversation and makes sure that all have an opportunity to speak. He avoids being caught up with one person or getting stuck with particular topics. It is possible that the moderator and the speaker are the same person. If two or more persons are available for the moderation and speaking it makes sense that they take turns.

D. The leader of intercessory prayer

Prayer is the backbone of a LiFe seminar. Accordingly, the leader of intercession plays an important role. He or she must be captured by the vision for God's work with LiFe and must be gifted to lead the intercession group.



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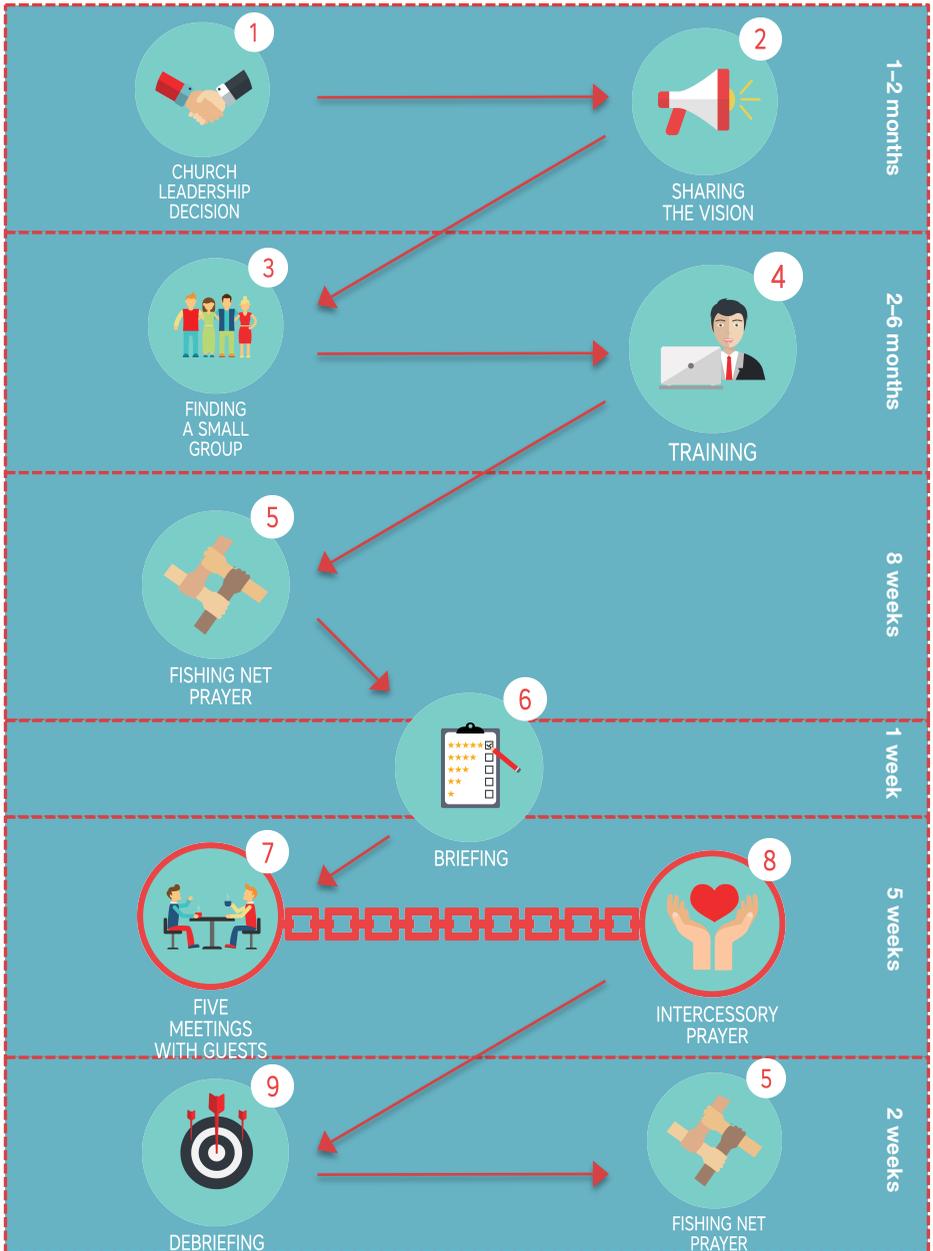
Overview of the 10 Steps (Description)

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Decision on church leadership level <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kick-off meeting with the goal of implementing LiFe seminars regularly, discuss all steps, appoint a project leader, fix LiFe dates |
| 2. Sharing the vision <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sow the vision and provide information on the process of the LiFe seminar during a church service, a prayer meeting or a small group meeting |
| 3. Hosting small group <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Find small groups which take an active part in the LiFe seminar |
| 4. Training <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organize a LiFe Multiplication Training in the church and train companions |
| 5. Fishing net prayer <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Start the fishing net prayer in a prayer or a small group meeting, distribute flyers, pray for companions and (possible) guests with the help of an updated prayer list |
| 6. Briefing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review with companions, pray for the LiFe seminar |
| 7. Five LiFe meetings with guests <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How can we be happy?• Why does God allow this?• What is the meaning of life?• Discovering the gift of God!• Life in new dimensions! |
| 8. Intercessory prayer during the five meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prayer for leaders, companions and guests, good communication between project leader and leader of intercessory prayer |
| 9. Debriefing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluation with companions, responsibility for continued accompanying |
| 10. Evaluation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluation on the church leadership level, feedback to the LiFe bureau and planning the next LiFe seminar |

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Overview of the 10 Steps (Order of Events)





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E. Companion

Experience has shown that the better the companions understand and fulfil their task, the better will be the spiritual development of the guests and their integration into the church. That is why the training of companions is an important and rewarding investment! Companions can be trained in the internal training of the church.



5th Step: Fishing Net Prayer

In prayer lies enormous power! That is why a LiFe seminar needs dedicated prayer preparation. A fishing net prayer meeting is a good opportunity to start. It is all about “casting out a fishing net” together. This meeting is led by members of the LiFe Team. With the help of a presentation the foundation for praying together is laid. After that the participants write the **names of the people** that they want to invite to a LiFe seminar on a **card**. At the end of the meeting they give the cards to the project leader, who then writes up a **fishing net prayer list**. This continually updated list is the basis for the fishing net prayer.

For about eight weeks, during the **regular prayer meetings** of the church or also during the weekly **meetings of the small groups** Christians will pray for these companions and the guests they want to invite.



6th Step: Briefing

Briefing, as a definition, originates from aviation. A flight has to be very carefully prepared, otherwise there could be danger. Flight briefings check essential topics such as the weather, the amount of fuel needed, take-off weight etc. so that the crew knows, “We are well prepared and nothing has been forgotten!”

In the same manner, **all companions** come together and meet with the speaker, the moderator, the person responsible for intercession and the project leader for a briefing session. At this meeting the persons involved get to know each other and the companions can introduce their guests. In this way all receive important information. At one briefing, for instance, a person shared that she would accompany her father and her mother’s current partner. We were curious to know if both of these men would get along together and were glad to hear that the two men were informed and had agreed.

Then the project leader goes through the major **guidelines** for companions:

- We take care of our guests, especially during the LiFe meetings, and we stay in touch with them during the week.
- Companions attend the meeting event, even if a guest does not turn up. As far as possible, we want all guests and companions to attend the five meetings.
- We make an effort in getting to know all names, also the ones of the other guests!
- We actively participate in the discussions, especially if guests appear hesitant to talk. As soon as guests start to get actively involved, we give them the priority to speak!



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- A prayer of surrender is at the centre of the fourth meeting. We want to cautiously prepare our guests for this meeting and to encourage them to participate in saying this prayer together.
- Five companions are invited to give their short testimony (experience report), one for each of the topics being presented. These testimonies are to be handed over in writing to the LiFe seminar leader in advance. Possible modifications to the testimonies may have to be considered.
- The importance of fellowship during the informal part after the Bible session is also emphasized.
- The organization of intercession is discussed and it is ensured that the intercessors receive updated information.

When all is clarified, the briefing ends with a time of common prayer.



7th Step: Five LiFe Meetings with Guests

The First LiFe Meeting

The LiFe seminar's success depends on the first meeting! We want our guests to feel at home in our midst and we want to serve them in the best way possible. That is why all preparations have to be completed 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting!

Preparation before Guests Arrive

A semicircle or U-shaped table or seating arrangement needs to be put in place so that the guests and companions can quickly form a homogenous community. All attendees can see each other as well as the screen.

An attendee list and name tags make it easier for the participants to get to know each other.



At LiFe seminars we always use the **same Bible translation**, e.g. The New International Version. If all have a fresh copy all the better. Guests feel more comfortable if their individual copies do not look different from those of their companions who may have well-read and worn-out Bibles. Furthermore, it is easier to point out Bible passages by way of page number rather than by chapter and verse. If we, for instance, refer to John 3:16, this may be absolutely incomprehensible to a guest. In guesthouses, catering personnel have to be instructed that although service is possible, they are not to disturb the sessions. Screen, projector and notebook are installed so that the presentation can start immediately.

Guest Welcome

We only have one chance to leave a first good impression! The leader has to attend to the arriving guests and companions, to ensure that they find a good seat, feel comfortable, can place orders for refreshments, etc. Of great importance are an up-to-date attendee list and impeccable name tags.

Crucial Program Points

The first few minutes of the program are extremely crucial! After the welcome by the LiFe moderator, an **introductory round** takes place. The persons introduce themselves one by one with name, place of residence, and share a short commentary, for example:

- I was invited by XYZ to attend this seminar
- I was intrigued by the topics
- I need orientation in my current situation
- I have been hit by a hard stroke of fate

The introductions are carried out clock-wise. It is important that everyone can briefly introduce him- or herself.

After the introductions, the presentation of the topic “**How can we be happy?**” begins with the LiFe PowerPoints and according to the given



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manuscript. During the **presentation** special reference to the Bible is made, also one of the companions gives an **experience report**. Afterwards, an open exchange takes place during the discussion round. During the **active Bible session** time the topic is deepened with the help of basic questions and the basis for the subsequent meetings is strengthened. As questions are being answered we suggest the following rules: everyone should have his or her say, no one should dominate the exchange, the moderator leads the session.

Time after the Program

All participants are invited to the **relaxed part** after the official program. Those who have to leave can of course go. Free discussion, reflection on the program's topic and fellowship are central at this time. **Good community building** is vital, so that the guests' spiritual development continues after the seminar, supported by good relationships.

The Second and Third LiFe Meetings

The two following meetings do not differ much from the first meeting. The topics "**Why does God allow this?**" and "**What is the meaning of life?**" are reviewed, so that guests are more deeply moved and start to sense the Lord's offer of redemption. During this phase it is vital that the companions look after their guests and deepen their relationship with them. It is a big advantage if the whole group can **constantly be present** from the first meeting on. New participants should only be able to join in exceptional cases. LiFe seminars are rather short, that means that any changes caused by absences or new participants impact the community in one way or another.



The Fourth LiFe Meeting and the Prayer for Surrender

We eagerly look forward to the fourth meeting! Guests decide at the prayer of surrender if the LiFe seminar was just a good and interesting discussion about core Christianity values, or if they actually **decide to receive Jesus personally** and come into the new life that God has prepared for them!

The better and calmer the first three meetings were, the more relaxed the companions and guests can look forward to the fourth meeting. The fourth meeting's topic is "**Discover the Gift of God**" and the centrepiece is the acceptance of this gift. This is done by praying the prayer of surrender! Guests are invited to recite this prayer together after they have been prepared to do so. This jointly spoken prayer gives the guests the possibility to deliberately entrust their lives to Jesus Christ and let him reign.

Exchange after the Prayer of Surrender

In the initial phase of LiFe seminars, the fourth LiFe meeting was often contested and not sufficiently defined from a methodological point of view. That led to unnecessary difficulties. We urgently recommend that after the prayer of surrender the following course of action is taken: After everyone has again sat down, each participant briefly answers the question: "**What did this prayer mean to me tonight?**" This question, which is posed by the LiFe speaker, gives everyone the chance to make a personal and clear statement. It makes sense that this exchange happens in the familiar order. A companion may for example say, "Yes, although I prayed this prayer for the first time seven years ago, I am again deeply moved." A guest may say, "I listened while you prayed. It also moved me but I could not pray with you." Another guest may say, „I have prayed this prayer from the bottom of my heart and I know that God heard it." It is vital that the leader guides this exchange by clearly giving each participant the word and thanking each explicitly, saying something along the lines of,



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“Thank you very much for sharing with us what this prayer has meant to you.” Normally this exchange shows the position guests have taken and whether they have made a positive decision for their faith in Jesus. Experience suggests that a **clear call to decision** is always worthwhile and we do not have to be afraid of negative responses. Those who did not pray along can usually give a **positive feedback** of the LiFe seminar as an important and valuable experience. Quite a high percentage of them make a decision of faith later on. Without a doubt, we have found a methodical format for the fourth LiFe meeting that clearly invites guests to make the decision of faith in Jesus and at the same time respects the **guest’s individual freedom of choice and dignity**. After years of experience we can say that those who accompany a guest to a LiFe seminar do not need to worry about negative reactions or that their relationship with the guest will suffer. Companions can only win! They can count on their guest to assess the LiFe seminar as a positive experience. Oftentimes there is a development to more: a clear decision for a relationship with Jesus Christ and the willingness to join and be integrated into the companion’s local church.

The Fifth LiFe Meeting

The foundational issues of the fourth meeting are consolidated during the fifth presentation. The guests learn what consequences this “**Life in New Dimensions**” has in daily life and how they can grow in it. They often desire that the **fellowship** can continue. This is a good occasion to invite the guest to the small group of the companion.



A Brief Overview of the five Topics

How can we be happy?

Every human has the desire to be happy. There is the saying, “Everyone is the architect of his own fortune.” But can we really reach the goal of happiness by human means?



Why does God allow this?

Terror attacks, natural disasters, airplane crashes etc. raise the penetrating question, “Why does God allow this?” This question is explosive because it often radically interferes with our personal life.



What is the meaning of life?

Every human being would like to find an answer to the following questions: Where do I come from? Where am I going? What will come after death? What shall I do during my short span of life? What happens when we look to God for answers to these questions?



Discovering the gift of God!

This is the big gift of God. He loves us human beings so much that he gave his only son for us. Everyone who believes in him will not perish, but have eternal life! Do we want to accept this great gift?



Life in new dimensions!

A personal relationship with Jesus fundamentally changes the life of a human being and opens new dimensions. In prayer we experience God’s closeness, his comfort and his power. The Bible becomes a living guide for our lives. New friends enrich and strengthen our new life with God.





8th Step: Intercessory Prayer

Prayer is the heartbeat that advances the Lord's Kingdom here on earth. In contrast to the fishing net prayer,

intercessory prayers take place **during LiFe seminar**

meetings. New attendees are always welcome during these prayer meetings! Now is the time for the companions' small group members to come together for intercessory prayers. The leader of intercession finds a suitable room and supplies the information for the participants of this prayer meeting. The project leader provides him with the **latest updates** from the Seminar; however, it is necessary that **discretion** is observed. Experience indicates that the **spiritual climate** is distinctively different if an intercessory group is active. It is not always possible for us to rationally understand the background leading to conflict in the invisible world. But the biblical promises are clear, *“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.”*

With the intercessory prayer, a larger circle of engaged Christians has the opportunity to actively accompany the LiFe seminar. Sometimes engaged companions feel that they have failed, if their invited guests did not register for the LiFe seminar. The participation in intercessory prayers helps them to **overcome a negative self-perception.** Each evangelistic event is a battle. Those who can put disappointments into the hands of God and can overcome apparent failures, are able to invite guests to the next LiFe seminar undeterred. They will one day see the fruit of their unfailing commitment!

Furthermore, intercessors will gladly take on newly saved people into their small groups. These new ones will not be a threat but rather an enrichment and in some way a reward for their prayer service!



Communication of the Next LiFe Seminar

It is of great advantage if the decision for an additional LiFe seminar is taken while a current Seminar is taking place. This has to happen in agreement with the church leadership, as LiFe planning has to be coordinated with the **agenda** of the whole church. Experience has shown that often after a successful LiFe seminar no other was planned, due to a lack of initiative or an overload with other activities. This in spite of the success with a good number of people taking the decision to live a life with Jesus.

However, if we **communicate** the **date** and the **place** of the next LiFe seminar before or during the current LiFe, we can count on the following synergy effects:

- Companions and people of prayer start off to be ready for the next LiFe in three or six months and invite guests.
- Present guests may possibly already become companions at the next LiFe! They would like to share what they have experienced with friends and acquaintances!
- The existing big expectations can be used for the next joint “catch of fish.”

With this in mind, we recommend that information is given about the next LiFe seminar at the latest during the fifth meeting.



9th Step: Debriefing

A debriefing meeting is set up no later than a week after the final LiFe seminar meeting and is attended by the project leader, the speaker, the intercession leader, and the companions. The meeting’s aim is to evaluate the knowhow gained. It is of great importance that the **continued accompanying of individual guests** is discussed and insured. Feedback regarding various aspects that were experienced together, is vital and helps



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when taking the next steps in supporting the guests and planning the next LiFe seminar.



10th Step: Evaluation

The evaluation on the church leadership level is an important part of the whole project. Special attention is paid to the further development.

Feedback

The project leader fills in an (online) feedback form. It helps him to summarize the gained experiences. This is also important for us at the LiFe bureau. In that way we know how many LiFe seminars took place in a particular region and we can organize good **support**. Suggestions and improvements are used for the training of future LiFe multipliers and the updating of the course materials.



LiFe Glossary

A LiFe seminar is an ambitious project engaging many participants over a period of approximately four months. LiFe seminars show their potential when they are regularly hosted. Precise definitions assist all participants to understand the LiFe seminar's organizational and administrative course of action and to manage it together smoothly.

- Companion** A Christian of the local church accompanies an interested guest during the five LiFe seminar meetings and also stays in touch with the guest during the week. Very often the guest is the companion's friend or acquaintance and is invited by him or her.
- Briefing** Under the leadership of the project leader all the companions meet together a few days before the first LiFe seminar meeting. The leader presents the goals and guidelines of the LiFe seminar. The companions give basic information about their guests. The testimonies for the five topics are assigned. A joint prayer time unites the team for the coming "catch of fish".
- Debriefing** After the five meetings the speaker, the companions and the intercession leader come together again under the leadership of the project leader. They discuss further accompanying of guests and start the planning for the next LiFe seminar.
- Experience Report** For each of the five LiFe topics one companion prepares a short testimony from his or her life.
- Fishing Net Prayer** For about eight weeks, church members pray together for friends and acquaintances who they want to invite to the LiFe seminar.
- Intercessory Prayer** During the five LiFe seminar meetings, engaged Christians from the companions' prayer groups pray that God reaches out to the guests.



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- Guest** The guest is interested in questions of faith. He or she registers to the LiFe seminar having received an invitation through a companion or by means of the church's promotion.
- Guesthouse** We recommend that LiFe seminars are held in a separate room of a good local guesthouse. We usually get the room free of charge for five meetings thanks to the twelve to twenty participants who are spending money on refreshments.
- LiFe** LiFe is the abbreviation for "Life Fully Experienced" (based on John 10:10b). Experience shows that not only guests, but also companions, leaders, and local churches discover a new dimension of "Life Fully Experienced".
- Moderator** He or she moderates the five LiFe seminar meetings (greetings, discussion during the active Bible study ...). The task of moderation can also be done by the project leader or the speaker.
- Project Leader** The project leader has the overall responsibility for the LiFe seminar. He has to be trained for his assignment. He is the person of reference for the speaker, the moderator, the companions and guests. He has to be recognized by the church and must have social competence.
- Prayer of Surrender** The fourth topic finishes with the prayer of surrender. After being thoroughly prepared by the four topics, the speaker explains the meaning of this prayer which is projected on the screen, visible to all. Guests and companions are invited to recite this prayer out loud together. Afterwards an exchange takes place, showing the guests' positions in regard to this prayer.
- Sharing the Vision** This is necessary to mobilize the church for a LiFe seminar which starts in two to six months' time. The sharing of the vision can be done during a church service, a prayer meeting or a small group meeting.

