**Next Week's Life Group:** In ALL You Do: The PROMOTION at Work **Next Week's Story:** Genesis 39—Joseph, from prison to prime minister

#### Our Church's Definition of a Biblical Disciple of Jesus

A person who is committed to *following, being changed by*, and *on mission* with Jesus (taken from Matthew 4:19).

## The Purpose of Life Groups

Life Groups are where we connect with God and with others through relationships – growing in spiritual maturity as biblical disciples of Jesus and inspiring a culture of discipleship as we do life together. Life Groups are loving, safe, and interactive places where people can be authentic and vulnerable as they explore, experience, serve. and grow in relationship with Jesus, the Word, and others. *Matthew* 28:16-20; Acts 2:42-47; Hebrews 3:12-13, 10:23-25; 1 Thessalonians 5:11.



## In ALL You Do

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function,

Romans 12:4

### **Getting Started:**

Describe your routine for getting ready for work.

## Story Background:

The Letter to the Romans was written to Christians residing in the city of Rome. Rome was the center of the Roman Empire and was ethnically diverse. In the first century AD it had a population of around one million people in an area less than ten square miles. "All roads lead to Rome" was the popular saying that demonstrated the city's importance and accessibility. Of course, the city of Rome was predominately populated by Gentiles and so it is expected that the church was comprised of both Jewish and Gentile believers. Paul addresses both groups in this epistle. The first portion of the letter focus on basic Christian doctrine. In Chapter twelve, Paul writes on what it looks like to walk out this doctrine in our lives. He specifically teaches on our expression and understanding of our unique role.

# The PREPARATION for Work



**Story/Passage:** Romans 12:1-8—Read in two or three different translations.



**Head Level**: These questions help us to examine what the Word tells us.

- How are we to present ourselves to God?
- How are we to think of ourselves ?



**Heart Level**: These questions help us wrestle with what we believe.

- What does it mean to think of yourself with "sober" judgement? Read Psalm 139: 13-14. Is there a tension in these two truths ?
- What is the importance of having different gifts, abilities, and jobs? Do you ever feel that your gifts/abilities/job is not as valuable as other people's gifts/abilities/job?



**Hands Level**: These questions help us commit to a next step and live it out in our everyday lives.

- How did God form me? (My spiritual gifts, heart, abilities, personality, and experiences all have come together to uniquely make me who I am.)
- Why is my formation important? (Because I discover God's purpose in how He made me. When I fulfill God's purpose, <u>it glorifies Him</u>. This clarifies my life's mission/ calling.)
- Is my formation a fit? (When it is not, expect frustration, fatigue, failure. When it is, I will be fulfilled, focused, fruitful.)
- How do I find the work I am formed for? (First, take an honest look at your gifts, skills, and abilities. Second, experiment and try it out. God won't steer a parked car. Finally, step out in faith.)