

Here's a sneak peak at an Akaloo Intergenerational Life Group Session

Intergenerational Life Groups

Celebrating Church

People Connection

Note for Life Group Leader

Welcome to *Akaloo* Life Groups! Discovering the Bible Intergenerational Life Group material is relational, engaging, and will help you and those in your group talk about faith and share faith with each other and the world.

Easy-to-do activities, prayers, rituals, service projects, and faith-filled conversation starters organized around a specific theme related to *Akaloo* are all part of these Leader Pages. Any or all of them can be part of weekly Life Group gatherings.

Celebrate faith, life, relationships, and community with *Akaloo* Life Groups. Have fun!

All of Us Together

Gathering Ritual: Welcome!

The church is all about the people of faith around the world who are connected in Christ's work of love. Most of the people in the church we will never meet, but we are still connected to each other because of God.

Introduce yourself to the group with your name, adding a made-up place and favorite food that starts with the first letter of your name. For example: "Hi, I'm Jennifer. I'm from Jericho and I like jelly."

Celebrating Church Together: Worldwide Connections

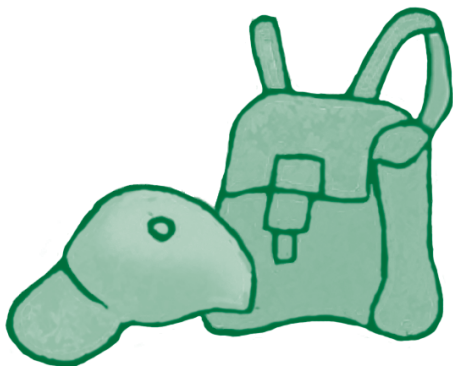
Being part of the church means *understanding how many different people are in it!* On a big piece of paper, use markers and crayons to make a map of the world, remembering as best you can how it looks.

Have each person make a star on the map where they live. Make stars where extended families live. Make stars on all the places where you have a connection. Include home countries of friends, church missionary posts, places you've heard of on the news, locations where your favorite movies are set, countries your fresh fruit comes from, places where languages you know are spoken everyday, where some favorite wild animals live, and so forth. With your whole Life Group working together, how many stars can you make?

Talk About It: If you wanted to visit the starred locations on your map, how would you get there? How would you get in touch with people who live in those locations? Pick one place you want to learn more about and investigate on-line.

Faith-Filled Conversation

Sprinkle these questions throughout your time together. Continue the conversation about today's theme and related activities, and learn more about faith and life.



- What do God's people look like?
- Why do you think God needs so many different people to be the church?
- Who are the youngest and oldest persons you know at your church? Who speaks more than one language? Who was born (or has lived) in another country? God loves us all just the way we are, as different as we are.

Celebrate: A World Feast!

Shop for some foods from other parts of the world. Get a variety to experiment with, so there will be lots of choices for everyone to try. In particular, investigate the produce section of your grocery store, or, if you are extra enthusiastic, an ethnic food store. Consider asking friends from other cultures to recommend their favorite dishes. The challenge is to come up with at least a couple of foods that are brand new to each person in your Life Group.

Make labels for each food, writing its name and the place it comes from. Take some risks and try each new food. Feast and remember you are part of the big, wide, beautiful world.

Serving Others Together: Prayers and Pen Pals

Think about all the stars on your Life Group map of the world. Offer your love and God's blessings to all the people and animals that live in those starred places. Pray for their happiness and for whatever you think they might need. Let each person mention a place on the map to pray for. Maybe people *there* are praying for *you* today! God loves them just as much as God loves you.

Is anyone interested in being pen pals with someone from another country? Investigate on-line to connect with a new friend.

Prayer

Say this prayer or blessing at the close of your *Akaloo* Life Group time.

Gather in a circle with your left hands stacked in the center. Repeat the last "Love and Amen" together.

Loving God, we are part of your church with people all over the world. Thank you for connecting us all!
Love and Amen.

Love and Amen!