

Group Leader Guide – October 11th, 2026

Group Announcements:

- 11th Hour Prayer | Mon-Thurs @ 11 am (in the church office)
- Operation Christmas Child | Boxes due by Nov 15th
- Night of Prayer & Worship | October 25th @ 6 pm
- Essentials Nov 2026 | Sign up at winacity.com/calendar
- If you would like to host a group in the next season, let your group leader know!

Attendance:

- Group leaders, please submit your attendance by person's name through our Leader Tools page winacity.com/leader-tools

FELLOWSHIP:

During this time, you may plan for food. This could be anything from just snacks to a full dinner. Games are also appropriate. YouTube and Google offer a wide range of games for you to choose from.

Use your group chat to create a place where people can be informed about your group's times and what to bring for food.

WARM UP:

As a starting point for your group discussion, consider asking questions that encourage conversation and help participants share about themselves.

- What's your most-used phrase that you swore you'd never say? Share Briefly. 10 min total time for discussion

LEARN IT: Recognizing The Shift

Read: 1 Kings 19:10 (NASB95)

He said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of Hosts; for the sons of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. And I alone am left; and they seek my life, to take it away."

- What are some ways that we can recognize when something unhealthy has simply become "normal"? Allow 3-5 min for discussion.

Leader Note: Bondage rarely begins with a dramatic decision. It happens through small compromises and changing thought patterns: "I would never" becomes "It's not that big of a deal," which eventually becomes "I don't see anything wrong with it." The danger is not simply that our circumstances change, but that our definition of normal changes with them.

SHARE IT: Knowing The Symptoms

Read: 1 Kings 19:4 (NASB95)

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree, and he requested for himself that he might die, and said, "it is enough; now O Lord, take my life, for I am not better than my fathers"

- Which of the symptoms discussed in the message surprised you? Were there any you identified with? 3-5 min discussion

Leader Note: Elijah's struggle didn't stay on the outside—fear began affecting his thinking, identity, relationships, confidence, and vision. When we bring isolation, distorted thinking, shame, fear, or loss of purpose into the light, recognition becomes an opportunity for freedom rather than condemnation.

LIVE IT: Freedom Requires Response

Read: 1 John 4:4 (NASB95)

You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.

- Where have you been asking God for a new assignment when He's telling you to return to the last one? Share Briefly 5-10 min for reflection and prayer (maybe turn on some worship music)

Leader Note: God didn't leave Elijah in the cave—He met him, corrected the lies he believed, reminded him he wasn't alone, and gave him direction. Freedom requires a response: where we've run, we return; where we've believed a lie, we replace it with truth; and where we've lost our way, we take the next step of obedience.

PRAY:

Use a group chat (WhatsApp, Messenger, Instagram, etc.) and add everyone to it. Post your group's prayer requests here during your meetings and throughout the week. Encourage everyone to pray for these needs daily. You may also post or do live video as daily encouragement for everyone, such as scripture verses, encouraging thoughts, spontaneous hangouts, etc.

- God asked Elijah to get up and return. Where have you been sitting, hiding, running, or believing you're finished—and what would it look like for you to get up and return? Leaders, please prepare some YouTube worship music and spend some time with your group waiting in His presence and worshipping Him, while incorporating a chosen expression of worship (raising hands, kneeling, etc)
- Give each group member a chance to pray for any other needs
- Share testimonies with each other; you may send them to stella@winacity.com so we can encourage the church

Suggestion:

- You may lay hands on people who need prayer after you have asked for permission.
- You may also take communion together
- If you have the space and availability, you may do a time of worship

Suggested timeframes for your group:

- 20-30 minutes for fellowship
- 10-15 minutes for Warm up
- 30 minutes for the study
- 10-15 minutes for sharing needs and prayer