I. WELCOME, 15 mins.
Prepare a couple of easy, fun and dynamic icebreaker games to get your group warmed up. Help your cell members to put aside their busy & stressful life, prepare their minds to come before God.

II. WORSHIP, 20 mins.
Prepare a few songs that help to bring your members to come to the throne of God. As you worship, help your members to encounter with God and experience God’s presence. During this time, the cell leader should also lead the group to pray aloud for the following prayer items:

A. MISSION ORGANIZATION: ____________, and their needs are: ____________
(Please contact the church if you don’t know the needs of the mission organization.)

B. CHURCH MINISTRY:
- 5/11 Mother’s Day
- 5/17 Happy Family Fun Trip
- 5/30-31 Men’s Retreat at Mission Springs
- 6/1 English Family Luncheon
- 6/7 Women’s Brunch

C. New comer: ________________ Identify new comers before cell meeting. Sick members, friends or relatives: ________________ Please also discuss how you may show your cares to them.

III. WORD, 45 mins. By sharing God’s word, the group may discuss how you may apply it in everyday life.

A. Sharing message from last Sunday’s sermon: (Try and listen to the sermon online once again.)
1. What is the key message from last Sunday sermon? What did God talk to you through the message?
2. How would you respond to the message? What action will you take after listening to the message?

B. Discussion Topic: We Are Blessed for Suffering in the Name of Christ

Scriptures: 1 Peter 4:12-19 (Please read Bible verses in turns)
Memorizing Verse: However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed but praise God that you bear that name. (1 Peter 4:16)

Foreword:
There used to be a disparaging connotation for “Christian” in Peter’s time. Believers were somehow ashamed being tagged as a Christian. Many people lived in a trend of immortality and lust, their feasting, drunkenness, wild parties, and their terrible worship of idols. (1 Peter 4:3) As such, the pagans excluded those who would not spend their lives chasing their own desires, estranged them, and even uttered slander against them.

Nevertheless, Peter encouraged believers not to be ashamed of being Christians. Rather, to praise God that they bear that name. Nowadays if we have suffered as being Christians, we are blessed. Today, I wish you to become the most blessed person in the world through the reading of 1 Peter 4:12-19.

1. We are blessed for suffering in the name of Christ (4:12-14):
   A) Expect to suffer for the Lord (4:12): A Christian follows Jesus Christ so naturally, Satan would very much like to pick on him. Whoever lives in the darkness obviously would not like to see any light. Since we are the light of the world, it would not be a surprise that fiery trials would come upon us. Therefore, do not see these trials as if some strange things happened to us.
   B) Exult for the Lord (4:13):
      a. The joy of suffering with the Lord: People are proud of being among a group of celebrities; likewise, if we were in the list of whom are suffering in the name of Christ, shouldn’t we be in better satisfactory joy and glory!
      b. The joy for having hopes: The suffering is temporal. As the Lord appears, He will reward those who suffered for him and grant them with eternal glory and joy.
C) Blessed are those who suffer in the name of Christ (4:14):
The Holy Spirit resides in us. He will guide us, comfort us and give us strength so that whoever suffers for the Lord will receive true blessing.

2. We should be proud of being Christians (1 Pe. 4:15-17):
A) We do not suffer for things that would not please God (4:15): Murderer, thief or scoundrel are all social outlaws. God would not be pleased by these people. Peter further reminded us that we shouldn’t be suffering from being a “meddler.” A meddler is a person who intrudes into other people’s affairs. It might sometimes be out of his own selfish purpose or intending to benefit himself but hurt other people’s right and interest. If we did things that do not please God, it is as if we were asking for it on our own.

B) Do not be ashamed of being a Christian (4:16): “Christian” is an emblem representing one who is willing to follow God’s will even if he has to suffer. We ought to be proud of being Christians and live like Christ to glorify His Name.

C) We will eventually need to pay our due to God (4:17): Since the judgment will begin with the family of God, we should, by all means, live righteously before God. This judgment is not a judgment of salvation, but a judgment to see if one gets the heavenly award. We will need to reconcile with God according to what we have done.

3. Keep on bearing suffers and doing good for God (4:18-19)
Peter encouraged us with Proverb 11:31, “If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner? God is just and faithful. He understands everything you’ve gone though. All you need to do is to entrust all your sufferings to God, keep up with the good work although we may be suffering from it. He will for sure give us the justice in his judgment.

Discussion: (Please pick the questions that are suitable for your cell group’s needs.)
1. Have you ever been suffered because of your believe or your identity? Please briefly share with everybody.
2. Why is it a blessing to suffer for the Lord?
3. Why would a Christian certainly be suffered? During the suffering, what gives you the greatest strength and comfort?
4. When we are criticized or attacked, what would be a proper way to respond?
5. How would you stay rejoiced and keep doing good?

Prayer:
Beloved Jesus, we thank you and praise you. You suffered for us, so that we may enjoy all the grace you’ve given us. We long to follow you, do what you did, even if we have to suffer for you, because you are the Lord of justice, faithfulness and judgment. I pray that Holy Spirit be with us at all time, give us wisdom and strength. Help us to live a radiant life that is according to your will. It is our hope that we may bring our generation positive and active influence that pleases you. Lord, we thank you for listening to our prayer and pray in Jesus’s precious name. Amen!

IV. WORK (Pray for each other), 10 mins.
Please break into group of 2 or 3 to pray for each other’s needs.