I. WELCOME, 15 mins.
Prepare a couple simple, fun and delightful icebreakers to help your group warm up. Help your cell group members to put aside their busy and tiresome life to prepare their hearts to come before God.

II. WORSHIP, 20 mins.
Prayerfully choose a few songs to lead the cell group members to worship God. The worship leader would encourage members to come before the throne of God to seek God’s face, and lead them into God’s presence. During this time, the cell group leader will 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:
- 5/4 English Committee Meeting
- 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: __________ Confirmed new comers’ name before the meeting.
   For sick members, friends or relatives: __________ Please discuss how you may show your care to them.

III. WORD, 45 mins. By sharing God’s word, the group may discuss how to apply it to their daily life.

A. Sharing message from last Sunday’s sermon: (It would be helpful if you could listen on-line once again)
   1. What is the key message from last Sunday sermon? How did God speak to you through the message?
   2. How would you respond to the message? What action will you take after listening to the message?

B. Topic of the week: Humble yourselves
Verses: 1 Peter 5:1-7
Memorizing Verses: Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. (1 Peter 5:6 NIV)

Preface:
Jesus is the best example of humility. When he was going around preaching, he was always aware that his strength came from his reliance on his Heavenly Father. He once said, “By myself I can do nothing, … for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.” A humble person is someone that admits they need the Lord. A humble person is someone that clearly understands that their talents are of God’s grace. Humility is not the symbol of weakness, cowardliness or fear. Rather, it means that we are aware where our true strength comes from. God is pleased to show favor to the humble. Let’s humble ourselves before God. Please read 1 Peter 5:1-7.

1. Learn from Apostle Peter’s life of humility (1 Peter 5:1):
   A. Peter did not lift himself up because of his identity or status (5:1a): Peter was one of the great apostles of the Lord Jesus. He witnessed all the events where Jesus preached, healed the sick, and cast out demons. He was also a witness of the sufferings of Jesus. No one else could share his status in the church. But Peter was just appealing to all the full-time elders he ordained as a fellow “elder”, which is an example of his life of humility.
   B. Peter appealed to the elders with the glory in Christ that they would share (5:1b): Based on what Peter had done in his life, he would definitely receive more upcoming awards than anyone else would. However, Peter just appealed to these elders with the upcoming glory they would “share”, which is an example of his life of humility.

2. Principles of pastoring with humility (1 Peter 5:2-4)
   A. Pastor God’s flock with all of one’s heart (5:2a): An elder was a full-time minister, ordained to pastor a church at that time. Pastoring the flock was the most important duty of an elder. Jesus Christ the Lord is the owner of the whole flock, while the elder is the loyal and kind housekeeper that God uses. So an elder must pastor God’s flock with all his heart.
   B. Pastor according to God’s will (5:2b-3):
One must pastor God’s flock according to biblical and spiritual principles while following the lead of the Holy Spirit instead of his own preference and style. Therefore, one must have the right attitude to pastor:

1) **Willingness**
The pastoring attitude should be out of willingness. One must have a shepherd’s heart instead of that of an employee. An employee does his job only for money or other benefits. So he doesn’t care for the flock. However, a shepherd should have a heart that loves God’s flock and be willing to sacrifice his life for the flock. (See John 12-13)

2) **Eagerness**
The motivation to pastor is out of one’s love for the Lord, and one’s knowledge that God wants him to do so. So just pastor God’s flock with one’s fire burning love.

3) **Example to the flock**
One must pastor by setting an example to the flock instead of lording over them. Lording over the flock is to use one’s identity or status to force others to be obedient, while setting an example that is to be exemplary and demonstrate the life of Christ by bearing witness with one’s virtues. Pastoring a flock with one’s life is the most influential way. May each and every one of God’s servants bear witness in faith, love and prayer, and become example to the flock.

C. **Hope for the crown of glory that will never fade away (5: 4):** People always strive for the worldly awards that will fade away. When we serve the Lord, our goal is to receive the crown of glory that will never fade away when the Lord Jesus comes back again.

3. **God always shows favor to the humble (5: 5-7)**
   A. **Submit yourself to the elders (5: 5a)**
The elders include not only those of older than you, but also those of spiritual maturity. In a big spiritual family, those who are younger shall learn the lesson of being humble and obedient. They need to not only humble themselves and take the guidance of the elders, but also demonstrate the virtue of being respectful to the elderly and the wise.
   B. **Submit to each other with humility (5:5b):**
   Peter quoted the passage from Proverbs 3:34 to remind us to submit to each other with humility, for God opposes the proud. God hates the proud, for those who don’t humble themselves become God’s enemies! God always extends help and shows favor to the humble.

C. **Humble oneself and commit himself into God’s hand (5:6-7):** Being humble and obedient is a very important spiritual lesson to learn. It is not easy for us to be so out of our sinful nature. Sometimes we might struggle or be disturbed. Therefore, Peter specifically reminded us of committing ourselves into God’s mighty hand, who will definitely help us become a person of humility and obedience!

**Discussion** (Choose some of the following questions based on cell members’ needs):

1. Besides Jesus, who do you think has the most humility? Why?
2. Of all the pastoring principles that Peter referred to, which one do you think is the most important? Why?
3. What makes you feel that you are ministered to in your cell group? Why?
4. Why does God show favor to the humble? How can we foster humility in our lives?
5. How can we truly submit to each other with humility in our cell group or church?

**Prayer:**
Dear Heavenly Father, we praise you, and we thank you. Thank you for using your servant Peter to set an example of humility and obedience to us, so that we can follow this example. In addition, Thank you for reminding us again that you oppose the proud and show favor to the humble. Help us be determined to become a humble person. Although it’s not going to be easy, Lord, we are determined. May you strengthen us so we can learn to be humble and obedient in our lives, and receive your reward. Hear our prayer. Thank you Jesus, we pray in Jesus’ 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.