I. WELCOME, 15 mins.
Prepare a couple of simple, fun and delightful icebreakers to help your group warm up. Help your cell group members to lay aside their busyness and tiredness and 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:
• 3/2 Bi-Weekly Prayer Meeting @7:30pm in Fellowship Hall
• 3/4 TB test for Community Service @ 6:30-7:30pm. $10 (valid for 2yrs)
• 3/4 Worship Night @ 7:30pm in Fellowship Hall
• 3/8 Leader’s Meeting @ 6:30 pm in E5.
• 3/12 Men’s Breakfast @ 9:30am in Fellowship Hall
• 3/13 & 3/20 Christ-Centered Scriptural Reading Class

C. New comer: _______________ Confirm 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. Through sharing and discussing God’s word, the group applies it to their daily life.

A. Sharing the 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’s 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: Live a Life to Please God

| Verses: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12
Memorizing Verses: For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. (1 Thessalonians 4:7)

Preface:
The Thessalonians lived out the life of faith, hope, and love, which was pleasing to God. However, if these young believers had not firmly relied on God, how could they have overcome the attacks by the enemies during the big tribulation and continue to love one another? Therefore, Paul encouraged them to work harder to do these things that were pleasing to God and testify for Him. As a result, the Gentiles paid respect to them and gave glory to our God.

1. Living a Holy life pleasing to God (1 Thessalonians 4 : 1-8)
   A. We need to live out the commands of the Lord Jesus (1-2):
      Paul humbled himself as a brother and exhorted and pleaded with the believers in Thessalonica to live out their lives according to his teachings of faith, hope, and love, which was pleasing to God. Not only did they do so, but he urged them to do more because that was the command of the Lord Jesus. They needed to live out what they believed in their daily lives.
   B. We need to be holy and distance ourselves away from sexual immorality (3-6):
      (1) God wants us to be sanctified (3): We were redeemed by God with a dear price and He sanctified us from the secular world for Himself. God wants us to do His will and completely avoid all improper sexual behavior, including sexual activities before marriage, any extramarital sex, and homosexual activities.
      (2) We need to control our body to honor God (4): We are a people of God’s holy nation and a royal priesthood. We have a holy and noble position, so we must uphold this position. Therefore, we need to control our body from committing the sins of sexual immoralities and live a holy life to glorify God.
      (3) Do not indulge in lust (5): The Gentiles’ bodies were
subjected to their desire. However, our bodies are God’s holy temple. Therefore, we cannot follow the sexual desires of our flesh and engage in immoral sexual activities.

(4) God will punish those who perform unholy acts (6): When we indulge in our lust and perform visible or invisible immoral sexual behavior, it will not only hurt our spouse, but it will also cause our spouse to be indirectly defiled. Premarital sex not only harms oneself but also hurts the future spouse. These are all actions that mistreat one’s spouse. God will punish those who act in such ways.

C. God called us to be Holy (7-8): God has given us salvation and redeemed us from all sins and made us Holy. He also commands us to live a holy life. So we cannot indulge ourselves in sexual immorality, and we should live a holy life. Otherwise, we would be abandoning God’s command as well as the work that the Holy Spirit is doing in us.

2. A life of loving one another pleases God (1 Thessalonians 4:9-10): Paul taught Thessalonians not only to avoid sexual immorality, but also practice the fundamental of a believer’s life of loving one another as one would love himself.

A. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit enables us to love one another (9):

The Holy Spirit inside of us guides us. It will allow us to love our brothers and sisters naturally, to care for each other, and to consider things that are beneficial to the other person. Anything that is unholy is in contradiction to the principle of loving one another because it is selfish and at the expense of someone else. If we cannot live out a holy life then we will not genuinely love one another.

B. The Thessalonians really practiced loving one another (10):

The Thessalonians were already selflessly helping other nearby churches that were in need such as Macedonia, Libya, and other cities where the believers lived. Paul encouraged them to hold on to their practice of loving one another and to go beyond it.

3. Working hard is pleasing to God (1 Thessalonians 4:11-12):

A. Work hard (11): Most Greeks disdained labor at the time because they thought it was a job for the slaves. Paul asked the Thessalonians that as they waited for the day the Lord returns to not put down the work they were doing and become idle. Paul told them to mind their own business and don’t stir up trouble, but they should fulfill their obligations by not complaining and by living and working for the Lord.

B. Win the respect of outsiders with good behavior (12): We are the living testimony of God. If we live out a life according to God’s heart, we will win the respect and good comments from the Gentiles. This can also lead the people to come to know the Lord and then accept Jesus as his personal Savior.

Discussion (please choose the topic according to the needs of the members):

1. Please share one thing that you liked the most that other people did for you? Or share one thing you did that your family liked you the most for doing.
2. Why Paul wanted us to live a holy life? What does it have to do with the Silicon Valley believers?
3. How do we live out a life that pleases God in our real life? (Please choose one or all topics from “becoming sanctified”, “loving one another”, and “working hard”.)
4. How do we witness our Lord in our daily life and work?
5. How should we, in the cell group, receive the newcomers or help the unbelievers that are in need?

Prayer:

Dear Abba Father, we thank You and praise You. Thank you for using Paul’s teaching to teach us that we need to live a life that is pleasing to You and glorifies You. Oh Lord, please help us to be alert and awake and live a Holy life. Help us to love our brothers and
sisters. Help us that in the days of waiting for your second coming, we can live out a fruitful life to testify Your name and preach the gospel of Your Salvation. We pray all this with prayer and thanksgiving in the name of Jesus, Amen!

4. **WORK (Pray for each other), 10 mins.**

   Please break into group of 2 or 3 to pray for each other’s needs.