

- As soon as you get your list of people... email and/or text to say hi.
- We'll be providing pizza, salad and drinks for everyone on Week 1 (Launch). Make sure to arrange for someone to bring snacks and/or water for Week 2.
- Be prepared to share your story (also co-leader) the first week... the more vulnerable and honest one is will set the tone for how comfortable people will feel... early vulnerability really allows for deep communication and community to occur. Write it out if possible so as to stay on track and to keep it short.
- Pass around list of snack/story during first meeting to get people signed up.
- Always give yourself at least 15-20 minutes before people arrive to each meeting, if possible, to set up your room and pray.
- Ideally all people will share their story. Please encourage EVERYONE to share, however if someone is adamant that they aren't comfortable, we aren't here to force them. Everyone should share by week 9... there is NO time in week 10... double up if necessary, if there is more than one person per week split snack duty (snack/H2O).
- Have a notebook ALREADY prepared before first meeting... explain it during first meeting... let them know you will be taking notes after the meeting. It's not a creepy thing, it just will help you to remember some details.
- For your info - write as much down as possible! Toward the end you will be writing a blessing to each person, and it is super helpful to have it. Here are two suggestions... one is a notebook with each week set apart, and you can just take notes right after the meeting. The other is to have sections for each person, and after they tell their story, take notes. You can always just make random notes on your agenda if it's hard to find a page, take some time later to add it to that person's page.
- Send a text/email mid-week every week, encouraging and reminding them what to work on and who is bringing snack/sharing their story, there are sample emails for each week online.
- Attend all leader check-in meetings on Sunday mornings at 10:10 in the New Lounge by the Pastors' offices if possible. If you cannot attend, please email us (rooted @ illuminatecommunity.com).
- Start early to plan your prayer experience for Week 3. One option is to meet outside of week 3 (meet another day, either before or after that session, either one works). If that won't work with your group's schedule, make sure to manage your week 3 time well so as to allow for as much prayer time as possible...
- Count on an hour minimum each week of prep & prayer.

- Serve experience - Start early to plan your prayer experience for Week 6-7. Your group is free to do something on your own if your group already has an interest or passion. If you want help, please contact Ginger (gingerz@illuminatecommunity.com), and we'll see if Pastor Scott can help connect you with one of our outreach partners.
- If your group is co-ed and you don't have an opposite leader/co-leader... plan in advance to have someone come in for week 5 Strongholds, contact Steve in advance to get a staff person or a Coach... or be thinking of one of your participants who can handle leading it (there are specific notes in week 5 folder on what worked best for Stronghold meeting).
- By week 5 start talking about what happens after... do they want to stay, do you feel anyone can lead well... where & when would they meet, etc.
- For week 6 - Bring info on Spiritual Gifts testing, talk about it, and then ask that it be done as homework and discuss for week 7... (there is info on Spiritual gifts in the Week 6 folder).
- If someone stands out to you as a possible leader, have them start to pray or assume some other responsibility in the meetings. Also talk to them about possibly leading the current group if they decide to stay in a group after Rooted, or discuss if they are interested in leading and/or co-leading a new Rooted group next session in January.
- Week 7 has a prayer of prophetic blessing... if your group is not comfortable praying for each other, then be prepared to pray over each of them. If your group is a bit more mature in this area, discuss spiritual gifts and, as each person takes a turn sharing their gifts, have the person next to them pray for them (write down everyone's gifts for your end of session card, it's helpful) Also there is a time for this in week 10, so if week 7 feels too rushed or it doesn't fit well, feel free to push it back to week 10 as an option.
- Week 8 pass out affirmation list, remind them to come on Week 10 with their word or words ALREADY chosen for each group member... this will save serious time and confusion. Also, in Week 8, pass out the cardboard testimony cards to take home and bring back. This will give them time to prepare, make sure to grab extras for Week 9 in case anyone forgets theirs.
- Week 9 you will discuss the cardboard testimonies. There is a template for leaders in the Week 9 folder where you can track your group's testimonies. Please turn this (email to rooted@illuminatecommunity.com), and let us know if anyone from your group has one that stands out. We will have an opportunity to share some of these during the celebration on November 24.
- Week 10 - Be prepared to share affirmation words... have the affirmation cards already written with their names on it, and you can have already written yours down for each Rooted member. We found this works best by passing the cards around, having each person say & write their word, go all the way around for the one person, and then pray over that person. If your group is comfortable praying, the person to their left or right can do so. Then repeat for each group member. This allows the focus to be on the group member and the prayer is able to be personal and specific since you just talked about them. If you wait until the end and pray over everyone individually it's harder to remember what words described them...

- Communion is suggested in week 10, we will be doing this at our Celebration so this is optional for your group, if you would like to do it you will need to provide it
- When writing the blessing cards for the Celebration, plan on at least ½ an hour per person per card... not only to write something personal but to pray over them. Cards are passed out at the Celebration, however it is good to have them ready before week 10 meeting for those who were unable to attend the celebration. Your notebook comes in really handy if your memory is not awesome when it's time to write the cards.
- Please encourage your group to attend the Celebration... this is NOT something to be missed!!! Please let your group know they will have an opportunity to be baptized if they have never done that. If anyone in your group does choose to be baptized, we encourage you the leader to be a part of this. You are the one that has walked the last 10 weeks with them, and it is a blessing we would like to share with you. We are happy to walk you through the details if you have never had the pleasure— November 15, 2020