

# *The Deep End*

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Life Group Agenda for the week of August 14th – August 20<sup>th</sup>

**WELCOME (15 min)** – Welcome everyone. This is a time for us to focus outward on our relationships with one another. Share the Goals and 1 Guideline. This week, we are concluding our series titled, “*Summer Splash.*” Let’s **stop and pray** for our church at this time.

**WORSHIP (15 min)** – This is a time for us to focus upward on our relationship with the Lord. Prepare a creative worship time that can be enjoyed by Children as well as adults/teens (*you will be releasing the Children to their Kids Slot time after the worship*).

**WORD (45 min)** – This is a time for us to focus inward and discover what the Lord is saying to us individually and collectively through His Word.

**This week’s truth to be shared: To become more and more like Jesus and grow stronger and better as Christians, we have to be constantly striving to go “deeper” with the Lord.**

**INTRODUCTION:** When it comes to swimming, which of these statements best describe your attitude towards the deep end of the pool? **1. Love it! I jump into the deep end right away! 2. It’s ok, but I like the shallow end, too. 3. I’m much more of a shallow end of the pool person. I like the calm on that end.**

We all have our preferences when it comes to the swimming pool, but when it comes to maturing in our faith, we would probably all want to dive in to the deep end.

Allow 5 – 7 minutes for this question.

**Read: 1 John 2:12-14**

**OBSERVATION:** What reasons would you give personally for the need to go ‘deeper’ in your relationship with God?

Spend about 5 – 7 minutes on this question.

In the passage we read a moment ago, the Apostle, John, writes to young Christians and mature Christians. Maturity comes as we ‘deepen’ our relationship with God and deepening our relationship with God really comes down to learning to be obedient to Him. As we submit to God in the various areas of our lives, we become more and more like Christ. We’ll never reach perfection in this life, but we are to always grow and mature in our faith and walk with Jesus.

**UNDERSTANDING: What are some things that you have done that have helped you to mature as a believer?**

Spend about 10 minutes on this question.

Paul's words indicate that there are stages of maturity in the Christian life. Some are like children, just starting out and learning the faith. Others are like young adults who are really beginning to enter the battle. Still others are like older adults who have developed a wisdom about faith that only comes with lots of practice.

**APPLICATION #1: At what stage of the Christian life are you?**

**APPLICATION #2: Do you believe that you are at an appropriate stage for your age-level?**

**APPLICATION #3: What can you do to continue to mature in your Christian walk?**

Spend about 10 minutes on these questions.

**PRAY: Spend time praying for each other to have a burden and desire to know and obey God more fervently.**

**WITNESS (15 min)** – This is a time for us to focus outward on our ministry to the world.

- ✓ Share any praise reports from your FRAN list that you've been praying for.
- ✓ August 20th – 21st – Back 2 School Weekend... who are you inviting?
- ✓ Don't stop... **SERVE LIKE CRAZY**, plan your Life Groups next serve event.
- ✓ Make Shared Ministry Assignments and then Fellowship together.

*(Now is the time to welcome the children back into the group and let them share something about what they've learned. Have a brief time of prayer with the whole group before fellowship).*