

## Facilitator Guide for *Our City. His Mission.*

*A 60–70 Minute Group Experience*

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### Purpose of This Kit

This experience is designed to help your group move beyond headlines and assumptions and into a deeper understanding of the real people, real needs, and real opportunities to bring hope and support to women in Philadelphia. This is a mission opportunity and a human conversation.

### Session Overview:

Total Time:	Film:	Discussion & Engagement:
60–70 minutes	~35 minutes	25–35 minutes

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### Facilitator Posture (Read Before You Begin)

As the facilitator, your role is not to teach or persuade - but to **guide, listen, and create space**.

Each of the 5 sections includes a Central Theme, Facilitator Insight, Discussion Questions, Key Facts/Context referenced within the video, an Engagement Prompt, and Supporting Scripture.

The Facilitator Insight serves to help you connect this chapter with the overall purpose of the video series (see above). Use Discussion Questions to have a human conversation, rather than a political one. The Facts/Context section can be used to refer to key information from the chapter. The Engagement Prompt will assist in moving the group to see and understand the present mission opportunity. As time permits, use the Supporting Scripture for further discussion.

### Keep in mind:

- Avoid assumptions about anyone’s experiences or beliefs
- Some participants may have **personal or painful connections** to this topic
- Keep the tone: Respectful Curious Grounded in care

### Encouragement to Facilitators

You don’t need to have all the answers. Your role is simply to help people see more clearly, feel more deeply, and consider their response. That’s where meaningful change begins.

Before you start facilitating, take time to pray that God would give you wisdom, humility, and care as you guide the discussion; that He would move the hearts and mind of His people through the video and discussion to be more like Jesus, and that He would bless and transform the city of Philadelphia, particularly the vulnerable women and children being served by AlphaCare.

## Opening (5 Minutes Before the Film)

### Sample introduction:

Today, we're going to watch a five-part film that tells the story of what's happening in Philadelphia through the lens of real people - clients, staff, and community partners.

We recognize that this topic can be personal for many. This is meant to be a safe space to listen, reflect, and learn.

*This isn't about politics or arguments.*

It's about understanding, compassion, and asking: *what does it look like to respond as a follower of Christ?*

In many ways, the need in Philadelphia is concentrated - like a wildfire. And just like wildfire response teams need to draw help from surrounding regions, this is an opportunity for people outside the city to step in with support, care, and resources.

As you watch, don't just think about what you agree or disagree with -

Think about:

- What stands out to you
- What surprises you
- What feels personal or "real"

### Scripture

"Open your mouth for the mute,  
for the rights of all who are destitute.  
Open your mouth, judge righteously,  
defend the rights of the poor and needy."- Proverbs 31:8-9 ESV

## SECTION 1: Shadow Over Our City

**Theme:** Understanding the reality.

### Facilitator Insight

This section frames the **scale and seriousness of need**. Let people sit with it rather than trying to “solve” it. If the conversation gets too focused on solutions, gently remind participants that the following videos will discuss more information about how AlphaCare is addressing the need and how the group can join the mission.

### Discussion Questions

- *What stood out to you most in this section?*
- *Did anything challenge what you previously assumed?*
- *Why do you think the need is so concentrated in cities like Philadelphia?*

### Facts / Context

- Large urban centers often account for a disproportionate number of abortions due to population density and access factors
- In Pennsylvania, a significant percentage of abortions occur in Philadelphia (cited around one-third)

### Engagement Prompt

Ask: *“If this were happening in our immediate community at this scale, how would we respond?”*

### Scripture

“Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.” - 1 John 3:18 ESV

“learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.” - Isaiah 1:17 ESV

“Give justice to the weak and the fatherless;

maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute.

Rescue the weak and the needy;

deliver them from the hand of the wicked.” Psalm 82:3–4 ESV

“He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you

but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” - Micah 6:8 ESV

## SECTION 2: Lives in Our City

**Theme:** Real people, real stories.

### Facilitator Insight

This chapter humanizes the statistics, encouraging viewers' compassion and empathy to grow.

### Discussion Questions

- *Which story or moment stayed with you?*
- *What complexities did you notice in people's situations?*
- *How does hearing real stories change the way you think about this issue?*

### Facts / Context

- Many women facing unplanned pregnancies are navigating multiple pressures:
  - Financial instability
  - Relationship challenges
  - Lack of support systems

### Engagement Prompt

Ask: *"What do people in situations like this actually need - not just in theory, but in real life?"*

### Scripture

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2 ESV

"Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep." Romans 12:15 ESV

"Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."  
Colossians 3:12–13 ESV

"Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body." Hebrews 13:3 ESV

## SECTION 3: Light in Our City

**Theme:** What compassionate care looks like.

### Facilitator Insight

Highlight the **tone and posture** of care:

- Professional
- Compassionate
- Non-judgmental

### Discussion Questions

- *What stood out about how AlphaCare serves women?*
- *What does “compassionate, professional care” look like in practice?*
- *Why is trust so important in this kind of work?*

### Facts / Context

- Many women seek care where they feel:
  - Safe
  - Heard
  - Not judged

### Engagement Prompt

Ask: *“What environments have you experienced where you felt truly cared for? What made the difference?”*

### Scripture

“The Lord is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.” Psalm 103:8 ESV

“In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” Matthew 5:16 ESV

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.” 2 Corinthians 1:3–4 ESV

## SECTION 4: Transformation in Our City

**Theme:** Impact and change.

### Facilitator Insight

Help the group see that **change is possible - and already happening.**

### Discussion Questions

- *What does transformation look like in these stories?*
- *What role did support and relationship play in those outcomes?*
- *What surprised you about how change actually happens?*
- *How might this make you reconsider statements you may have heard that pregnancy help is “only being concerned with the baby”?*

### Facts / Context

- Long-term support systems significantly impact outcomes for women and families
- Transformation is often gradual and relational - not instant

### Engagement Prompt

Ask: *“Where have you seen transformation happen in your own life or community? What made it possible?”*

### Scripture

“And he who was seated on the throne said, ‘Behold, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.’” Revelation 21:5 ESV

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.” 2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV

“And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.” Ezekiel 36:26 ESV

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” Romans 12:2 ESV

## SECTION 5: “Our City. His Mission.”

**Theme:** Invitation to respond.

### Facilitator Insight

In the discussion, aim to avoid applying pressure. Instead, follow the tone of the video as you guide the group in considering the **invitation** to respond like Christ and take **ownership** in their response.

### Discussion Questions

- *What role could people outside the city play in meeting this need?*
- *What does it mean to see this as mission work?*
- *What would it look like for our group to be part of the solution?*

### Facts / Context

- Cities like Philadelphia often carry a disproportionate share of need, including higher poverty rates and demand for support services.
- Many organizations rely on support from outside their immediate community to sustain and expand their work.
- Mission efforts often combine local presence with external partnership, directing resources where they are most needed.
- Consistent, compassionate, professional care—like the AlphaCare model—can lead to long-term impact when supported by a broader network.

### Engagement Prompt

Ask: *“If we took one step as a group, what could that be?”*

### Scripture

“And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?’ Then I said, ‘Here I am! Send me.’” Isaiah 6:8 ESV

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:19–20 ESV

“Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.” James 1:27 ESV

“How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” Romans 10:14–15 ESV

## Closing Discussion & Action (10–15 Minutes)

### Reflection Questions

- What are way you see the love of Christ communicated in this work?
- What impacted you most tonight?
- What do you feel called to learn more about?
- What is one step you could personally take?

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### Ways to Engage

Encourage participants to consider:

#### Time

- Prayer
- Volunteering

#### Talent

- Professional skills (medical, counseling, marketing, admin)

#### Resources

- Financial giving
- Supporting specific initiatives - Physical donation drives, Mentorship Program

#### Connection

- Becoming a Church Champion / Liaison - helping your church stay connected and engaged. (program roll-out coming soon)

#### Awareness

- Subscribing to the AlphaCare Email Newsletter
- Hosting conversations like this one

### Closing Prayer Prompt

“God, give us wisdom, compassion, and courage to respond in ways that reflect Your love and truth.”

## Glossary of Terms

- **Unplanned Pregnancy**  
A pregnancy that is not planned or expected at the time it occurs.
- **Pro-Life**  
A perspective that advocates for the value and protection of unborn life.
- **Pro-Choice**  
A perspective that emphasizes a woman's right to make decisions regarding her pregnancy.
- **Compassionate Care**  
Care that is respectful, non-judgmental, and focused on meeting practical needs.
- **Mission Work**  
Serving others with intention, often outside one's immediate community, to meet spiritual, physical, or emotional needs.
- **Church Champion / Liaison**  
A person who helps connect their church to a mission or organization, sharing updates and encouraging involvement. (program roll-out coming soon)