



SMALL GROUP COVENANT

This covenant is reviewed and signed at the beginning of each term by all groups. Groups that are continuing still review the covenant during the first meeting of each term.

Session Dates _____ to _____.

Leader(s) _____ Phone/Email _____

Leader(s) _____ Phone/Email _____

Host(s) _____ Phone/Email _____

This covenant will help us discuss and clarify our goals, expectations, and commitments as a group. Since healthy groups thrive on trust and participation, a clear covenant is an important starting point toward a successful group experience.

Small Groups: **Our Basic Purpose**

The purpose of each small group is to gather together to form a trusting, safe relationship with each other as we study God's word together, pray together, share victories and struggles together, and grow in our walk with Jesus together.

Having a consistent environment where relationships and trust is formed becomes vital in this process. With that, we can have a space for our doubts, our fears and stresses, our victories and gratitude. It's also a space where we can challenge ourselves and each other to grow.

Sharing

Each week, we will take time to share what is happening in our lives. One of the main tools we use for this by asking each person two questions: "What is stressing you out this week?" And "What are you thankful for this week?" Answering these two questions can also be useful to indicate how to pray for each of your group members.

Study

Each week we'll study a portion of God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon. Our goal is to discover what God is saying to each of us specifically, and how to apply and live out our relationship with Jesus in our day-to-day experiences and relationships.

Support

Each week, we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (see John 15:9-13). This care will take many forms, such as praying, listening, meeting needs, and encouraging and even challenging one another as needed.

Five Marks of a Healthy Group

For our group to be healthy, we need to:

1. focus on spiritual growth as a top priority (Romans 8:29);
2. accept one another in love just as Christ has accepted us (Romans 15:7);
3. take care of one another in love without crossing over the line into parenting or taking inappropriate responsibility for solving the problems of others (John 13:34);
4. treat one another with respect in both speech and action (Ephesians 4:25-5:2);
5. keep our commitments to the group — including attending regularly, doing the homework, and keeping confidences whenever requested (Psalm 15:1-2, 4b)

