FIRST SMALL GROUP MEETING PACKET

FOR THE SMALL GROUP LEADER

**Take a moment to go over the small group best practices.** (Attached in the packet)

**Read the announcements:**

**Cover any other details that need to be talked about**. (such as communication / group meeting places / Childcare / Role of the elder or small group leader/ group roster)

**Explain and pass the “share the meeting” sheet as you ask some icebreakers.** (Attached to this document)

**Pick one or two Ice Breakers:** (More can be found in this packet)

* If You Had Your Own Talk Show, Who Would Your First Three Guests Be?
* What Is The Scariest Thing You Have Ever Done For Fun?
* If You Can Instantly Become An Expert In Something, What Would It Be?
* You Have To Wear A T-Shirt With One Word On It For One Year. Which Word Do You Choose?
* What’s The Funniest Thing You Did As A Kid That Your Parents Still Talk About To This Day?
* If You Were The Eighth Dwarf, What Would Your Name Be?

**Q1: Why do we meet in small groups like this?**

**Q2: Can you think of any commands that likely won’t be obeyed if we only meet on Sunday?**

**Q3: Is GCC just making this small group thing up or are we being guided by scripture? Can anyone think of any Bible verse that would be helpful in why we have small groups?**

Someone read Acts 2:46

*Acts 2:46 (NKJV)*

*46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart.*

**Q4: What two types of gatherings do we see in that verse?**

There were large groups (In the Temple) and small groups (House to house)

Someone read Eph 4:8-12

Ephesians 4:8, 11-12 (NKJV)

*8 Therefore He says: “When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men.” ~~9~~ ~~…~~ 11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,*

**Q5: Who’s responsibility is it to do the work of ministry and edify the body of Christ aka the Church?**

It is NOT the responsibility of the leaders to do all the ministry, it is the members who do the work of the ministry that builds up the body of Christ. We are convinced that personal ministry among the saints cannot be fulfilled only through our larger gathering.

Someone read Hebrews 3:12-14

Hebrews 3:12–14 (NKJV)

*12 Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; 13 but exhort one another daily, while it is called “Today,” lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. 14 For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end,*

**Q6: What does the word exhort mean? Anyone have a different translation? How does it translate verse 13?**

To Exhort is to encourage.

**Q7: How often should we be encouraging each other?**

Daily

**Q8: How would this command be accomplished in Biblical times… before technology?**

Face to face

**Let’s Pray for each other and be reminded of what** Ephesians 3:20 20 Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us,

Before everyone leave remind them of the place you will be meeting next week and pass out the book.

Getting to Know You—Questions

**ICE BREAKER:**

* If You Could Live In Any Sitcom, Which One Would It Be?
* What Was In Your High School Locker #?
* If You Had Your Own Talk Show, Who Would Your First Three Guests Be?
* If A Movie Was Being Made Of Your Life And You Could Choose The Actor/Actress To Play You, Who Would You Choose And Why?
* What Is The Scariest Thing You Have Ever Done For Fun?
* If You Can Instantly Become An Expert In Something, What Would It Be?
* If You Could Eliminate One Thing From Daily Routine, What Would It Be And Why?
* What Is In The Trunk Of Your Car Right Now?
* You Have To Wear A T-Shirt With One Word On It For One Year. Which Word Do You Choose?
* What’s The Funniest Thing You Did As A Kid That Your Parents Still Talk About To This Day?
* If You Were The Eighth Dwarf, What Would Your Name Be?

**PARENTS AND SIBLINGS**

• Where were you born?

• Where were you raised?

• How many brothers and sisters do you have?

• Tell a story from your childhood or adolescence that gives insight into your family.

**PERSONAL**

• What day of your life would you most like to re‐live and why?

• In what area of your life would you like greater peace and why?

• What do you find yourself praying about recently?

• What is the most important decision facing you in the near future?

**SPOUSE AND CHILDREN**

• How did you meet your spouse?

• How does your spouse “complete” you?

• How many children, if any, do you have and what are their names and ages?

• When your children are grown, what would make you think you were successful in raising them?

• If your spouse and children could write your epitaph, what would you want it to say?

• What creative things have you done to cultivate romance in your marriage?

• What creative ways have you created memories with your children?

• What dreams do you have for your future as a couple or as a family?

**VOCATION AND EDUCATION**

• Where did you go to school?

• What did you study or what do you now wish you had studied?

• Where do you work, and how do you spend your waking hours?

• If you could do anything but what you do now, what would it be?

**HOBBIES AND INTERESTS**

• What do you enjoy doing with your spare time?

• If rich Uncle George died and left you $50,000 that you had to spend and you had

one month off, what would you do with the money and time?

• What have you never done that you wish you could do?

Back for more

**GOD AND CHURCH**

• In what church/denomination, if any, were you raised?

• What were you taught about God as a child?

• What has been your most significant encounter with God?

• Describe the state of your relationship with God now.

• Tell us how you experienced conversion?

• What has helped you grow in your walk with God?

• Who has been the most significant influence in your relationship with God, and why?

• What would you like your relationship with God to be five years from now?

• When you die and stand before God, what would you like for his first words to you to be?

• How are you serving in the church? Is there another ministry in which you would like to be involved?

• What has God been teaching you?

• What are you reading?

**SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

• What area of growth in your (or your spouse’s) character (in the last 3‐6 months) have you been most encouraged about?

• How have you seen the Lord at work through you in the past several weeks?

• What things are you most thankful for in your church, spouse, friends, workplace, family?

• What have you been giving thanks for as you have walked with God this week?



**GREAT COMMISSION CHURCH**

SMALL GROUP BEST PRACTICES

1. Do unto others.
   1. *Avoid confessing other’s sins or faults.*
2. What happens in small group stays in small group.
   1. *Treat personal information shared by others as confidential.*
3. Don’t take disagreements personally.
   1. *Avoid discussing sports and politics.*
4. Respect each other’s time.
   1. *Start on time and end on time.*
5. Emphasis on those in the group.
   1. *Focus on prayer and needs of people in the group.*
6. Everyone gets a turn.
   1. *Avoid dominating the conversation.*
7. Respect the space
   1. *Avoid personal areas in the home. (Such as Master Bedroom or Landry room)*
8. You are probably not a counselor
   1. *Avoid trying to fix everyone’s problems.*