

# SMALL GROUPS

LEADER ORIENTATION



## OUR OBJECTIVE:

Envision & equip leaders to facilitate inspiring, life-changing community through Small Group experiences.

## OUR AGENDA:

1. What are “Free Market” Small Groups?
  2. What is the purpose of Small Groups?
  3. What is required of leaders?
  4. What is the practical plan?
- 

### 1. What are “Free Market” Small Groups?

Groups formed around the leader’s specific interests, topics, or affinities. The goal is to transform an interest group into a spiritual community through relationships and spiritual practices.

- A. Free Market \_\_\_\_\_.
1. Flexibility (Times, places, days)
  2. Diversity & Variety (Directory / PCO)
  3. Semester Format (“Off Ramps”)
  4. Leader Driven & “Owned” (Bottom up)

- B. Free Market \_\_\_\_\_.
1. Discipleship (must be intentional)
  2. Spiritual dimension (may not be there)
  3. Transitionary (possible detriment to genuine intimacy)

- C. Free Market Small Group \_\_\_\_\_...

### 2. What is the purpose of Small Groups?

Creating opportunities for spiritual growth through relationships in a small group environment.

- A. The Four \_\_\_\_\_ of Small Groups (H.E.A.T.)

1. H \_\_\_\_\_ & Worship God.

“Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ (Matt 22:37)

2. E \_\_\_\_\_ Fellowship.

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” (John 13:34-35)

3. A \_\_\_\_\_ The Great Commission.

“Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” (John 20:21)

4. T \_\_\_\_\_ People to their next spiritual level.

“And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.” (2 Timothy 2:2-3)

### 3. What is required of Small Group leaders?

A. Why do we have leadership \_\_\_\_\_?

1. \_\_\_\_\_. The Lord charges us to be careful. (James 3:1; 1 Timothy 3).
2. \_\_\_\_\_. The pastors are responsible to the Lord for the sheep, so he must make sure they are receiving proper care. (1 Peter 5:2-3).
3. \_\_\_\_\_. The enemy will attack the leader wherever he/she is vulnerable. (1 Peter 5:8-9)
4. \_\_\_\_\_. The leaders model the ministry, values, and ultimately the Kingdom to the church. (1 Corinthians 4:15-16)
5. \_\_\_\_\_. Prerequisites and requirements separate those truly called and qualified from those seeking to have needs met through position.

B. \_\_\_\_\_ Prerequisites of Leadership.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ of The Rock vision for small groups.  
"Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work." - Eph. 4:15-16
2. \_\_\_\_\_ others for Jesus sake.  
"For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake." - 2 Corinthians 4:5
3. \_\_\_\_\_ to the leadership of The Rock.  
"Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you." - Hebrews 13:17
4. \_\_\_\_\_ to other leaders.  
"Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ." - Ephesians 5:21
5. \_\_\_\_\_ and meaningful devotional life.  
"But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night." - Psalm 1:2
6. Desire to take spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ for others.  
"We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to build him up." - Romans 15:1, 2
7. Willingness to faithfully \_\_\_\_\_ other people.  
"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others." - 2 Timothy 2:2
8. Subscribe to each \_\_\_\_\_ in the belief statement of the church.  
"May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus." - Romans 15:5

C. \_\_\_\_\_, not gifting...

A leader should also have personal character which is growing in those areas described in Timothy, Titus, and Galatians 5:16 ff. These qualities include:

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| - Being above reproach   | - Temperate                                    |
| - Self-controlled        | - Respected                                    |
| - Hospitable             | - Not addicted to wine (or bound by any habit) |
| - Not violent but gentle | - Free from the love of money                  |
| - Not contentious        | - Home life in order                           |

**Note:** Teaching skills and abilities are not required of our Small Group leaders. We feel that this responsibility is related directly to the pastors of the church.

## 4. What is the Practical Plan?

A. Small Group \_\_\_\_\_.

B. Semester \_\_\_\_\_.

- Fall: Late Sept – Mid Jan
- Spring: Mid Feb – Mid May
- Breaks: Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years, etc...

C. Small Group Application \_\_\_\_\_.

- Pick a topic/Idea
- Attend SG Orientation
- Fill out SG application
  - o Due: 2 Wks before SG Kickoff
  - o Finger printing
- Market your group!
  - o PCO Directory completed – YOU!
  - o PCO sign ups, weekend services – ALL!
  - o TRC promo via social media – US!

D. Small Group Leader \_\_\_\_\_.

- Communicate, communicate!
- LEAD with joy.
- Be a good host! (Coffee, treats!)
- Don't answer all the questions.
- Draw people out.
- End on time!

E. Coaching & \_\_\_\_\_.

- Personal, Accountability Groups, Ladies & Men's Nights, PCO, etc