

SMALL GROUP AGREEMENT

Season Dates _____ to _____

Leader(s) _____ Phone # _____

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

SMALL GROUPS: PURPOSE

Small groups exist to promote the development of significant Christian relationships centered around the study of God's Word (see Hebrews 10:24-25; Romans 8:29).

SHARING

Each week, there will be a "Community" question given to begin to know one another in the group better. After the first few weeks, it will naturally become more informal and personal as our group feels safer and more comfortable.

STUDY

Each week we'll study a portion of God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon. Our goal is to learn how to apply and live out our Christianity 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 groups to be healthy, we need to:

1. Focus on spiritual growth as a top priority (2 Peter 3:18)
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, 4)

GUIDELINES AND AGREEMENT

- Dates: We'll meet on _____ (day of week) for _____ weeks. Our final meeting of the season will be on _____.
- Time: We'll arrive between _____ and _____ and begin the meeting at _____. We'll spend approximately _____ minutes in study/discussion and _____ minutes in prayer/sharing.
- Children: Reimbursement for child care services that are obtained for the purpose of small group participation is available through Coastal Community Church. Small group leaders can assist with the location of the forms and any other information that might be necessary.
- Study: Each week, we'll study the same topic(s) covered in the previous weekend's sermon.
- Prayer: Our group will be praying each week for one another and for specific requests.
- Homework & Attendance: Joining a small group requires a commitment *to attend each week and to do the homework ahead of time*. Obviously, allowances are made for sickness, vacation, work conflicts, and other special events. *This commitment is key to a healthy and fruitful group.*

Most of the homework comes from simply attending a corporate worship service the previous Sunday or listening to/watching the sermon online. Additional preparation will require from fifteen to thirty minutes to read the key passage and consider/answer the questions to adequately prepare for the group study and discussion.

- Social:
- Serve project: