

# Leaders Guide - CP Growth Group Covenant

Date \_\_\_\_\_

*When discussing use proactive leadership style – clear direction, yet flexible*

Leader(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ .

Host(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ .

Small groups thrive on participation! The purpose of this covenant is to help you to discuss and clarify your group's goals, expectations, and commitments.

## **Growth Groups: Their Purpose**

Growth groups exist to promote people helping people *center* their lives on Jesus (Heb. 10:24-25; Rom. 8:29). We'll do this by focusing on four primary activities:

### **SHARE**

Each week, we will take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include some planned "sharing questions." But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as we feel more comfortable.

### **STUDY**

Each week we'll study a section 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.

*Our goal is to interact interpersonally on the topic and how we can  
Practically follow Christ, not to answer all the questions.*

### **SUPPORT**

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

### **SERVE**

Spiritual Growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to our community (Ephesians 4:11-16). Throughout the quarter, it is our hope that you can find and/or be affirmed in the ways God has designed you to serve, and make a difference in God's Kingdom.

## **Six Marks of a Healthy Group**

For our group to be healthy, we need to....

1. Make spiritual growth our number one priority (Romans 8:29);
  - *Tangents – they are okay sometimes, but sometimes we need to be refocused. We'll need to keep spiritual growth our focus and stay on topic.*
2. Accept one another (Romans 15:7); *We will have different preferences.*

3. Take care of one another (John 13:34);
  - When crisis happens we're there to help with support, prayer, encouragement, listening meals, etc.
4. Treat one another with respect in both speech and action (Ephesians 4:25-5:2);
  - Listening to one another, if one's talking let's all listen, nothing worse than two conversations going on at once.
  - Our goal is to listen, not give advice. (advice is given when asked for) We are not here to judge or fix – unless someone asks. An example of giving advice is by saying, "Well this is what I think you should do." On the other hand that doesn't mean we can't question what is said or what someone is doing.
  - Some of us have the gift of gab, also known as dominator – be careful, I as a facilitator might have to help you.
  - Be careful of gossip prayers. For example, "we need to pray for (person's name) because they are doing this..."
  - No put downs
  - What is said here stays here – unless of course what's shared would be harmful to yourself or someone else, and/or if I as the leader need to seek counsel on how to respond to an issue in the group.
5. Keep our commitments to the group (Psalm 15:1-2, 4b).
  - Please give us a call if you can't make it to Growth Grup so we know what's going on and how to pray for you
6. Regularly attend CenterPointe (Acts 2:42-27, Heb. 10:25)
  - This is not a must, but it will help grow us closer to God and each other as we share in life of the church together

## Guidelines and Covenant

- 1. Dates** We'll meet on \_\_\_\_\_ nights for \_\_\_\_\_ weeks.  
Our final meeting of the quarter will be on \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2. Time** We'll arrive between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and begin the meeting at \_\_\_\_\_.  
We'll spend approximately \_\_\_\_\_ minutes in singing (optional), \_\_\_\_\_ minutes in study/discussion, and \_\_\_\_\_ minutes in prayer/sharing.
- 3. Children** As a group, we have arranged for childcare to be:  
Group members are responsible to arrange childcare for their children, whether as a group collectively or as individuals.
- 4. Study** Each week, we'll study the same topic(s) covered in the previous weekend's sermon. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life.
- 5. Prayer** Our group will be praying each week for one another and specific missions requests.

## **6. Growth Guide and Attendance**

Joining a growth group highly recommends a commitment *to attend each week and to do the growth guide ahead of time*. Obviously, allowances are made for sickness, vacation, work conflicts, and other special events—but not much more! *This commitment is key to a healthy group.*

If we cannot come to a meeting, we will notify the group leader or the host.

## **7. Refreshments**

*(This space is left blank and may be filled in by the group)*

## **8. Social(s)**

We will fellowship socially four times a year. Two of those times will be during the summer break months.

## **9. Service Project(s)**

We will engage in one service project a quarter.

We agree together in Christ to honor this covenant.

*(To be decided on or signed by each group member on or before the third week.)*