REAL LIFE
G R O U P S

SMALL GROUP GUIDELINES

THIS IS A SAFE GROUP

Confidentiality is key—what is said in the group stays in the group. Be aware how you are affecting the environment with your words, actions, and non-verbal communication. This needs to be a place where people feel comfortable opening up and sharing.

NO CROSSTALK

Be considerate of others as they are sharing. No side conversations, checking phones, responding to texts or emails, etc.

LISTEN

Let's value one another by listening to what is being shared. Allow a pause after someone shares for them to finish and for others to consider what was said. Eye contact and body posture play key roles in creating a positive or negative group environment.

NO RESCUING OR FIXING

We are not here to fix each other; Jesus does that part. Avoid the tendency to rescue when someone is struggling to get the words out or shares a struggle or conviction.

USE "I" STATEMENTS

It's easy to talk about others' issues or respond with "we," "us," or "the church," but for us to grow as disciples and build relationships, we want to use "I" statements.

DON'T OVER TALK

We want to create time for all members of the group to participate in the discussion. Be careful not to always be the first responder or regularly give long responses.

FIGHT FOR RELATIONSHIP

It's not "if" conflict or hurt feelings will happen, but "when." We commit to fight for relationship with each other. Go to the person and share your struggle, or seek wise advice if you are not sure how to handle the conflict.

BASIC BIBLE STUDY METHOD

1. Pray

2. Read passage 3-4 times (use different translations)

3. Write out simple outline of passage

QUESTIONS TO ASK ABOUT THE PASSAGE

What did you learn about God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) in the passage?

What new thing did you learn in this passage?

What questions/challenges does this passage raise for you?

What verse/truth stuck out to you?

What did you learn about yourself (people) in this passage?

How has what you learned impacted you or can be applied in your life?

REAL LIFE
GROUPS