DISCOVERING YOUR ESSENTIALS FOR HEALTHY GROUPS

"It pays to plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark." Anonymous



1. UNDERSTAND HOW GROUPS FIT IN YOUR ______ STRATEGY.

"Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ." Acts 5:42 (NIV)





• How we approach and implement groups



The number one task of leadership is to continually clarify and communicate the purpose of the organization.

Concentric Circles for a Small Group Ministry and a Small Group

The goal of your small group or Small Group Ministry is to "Think Developmentally". You want to move people from the outer circle (Community) to the inner circle (Commissioned). Wherever people in your small group or your Small Group Ministry are at, you want to think, what the next step is and how our small group can or Small Group Ministry can develop people.

Just as a computer has many systems running in the background so your programs work well; so you, as the Host or Small Group Ministry Point Person, have the developmental process of the concentric circles running in the background of your strategy.

CONGREGATION CROWD COMMUNITY

So where are the people in your small group or Small Group Ministry?

Community

Small Group Ministry: The local population unconnected in and around your church. *Small Group*: Those not in your group you are praying for to connect.

Crowd

Small Group Ministry: Those in your churches database that are connected to a small group. *Small Group*: Those attending your Small Group.

Congregation

Small Group Ministry: Number of people in a Small Group taking on a role. **Small Group**: Taking on a role (formal or informal) in the small group.

Committed

Small Group Ministry: The number of people who have the role of Future Host in the group. *Small Group*: Those committed to being a Future Host.

Core

Small Group Ministry: The number of people hosting a group. *Small Group*: The Host of the Small Group.

<u>Commissioned</u> *Small Group Ministry*: the number of small groups engaged in the P.E.A.C.E. Plan. *Small Group*: The group is committed to P.E.A.C.E. Plan with a P.E.A.C.E. Champion.

2. KNOW THE ______ AND _____ OF THE SMALL GROUP MINISTRY.

We remain committed to seeing the five biblical purposes deepened in the church, large groups/small groups, small groups and each individual life.

VISION Why We Are Here

To see every person, from the core of our church, to the ever-growing community, connected in a **HEALTHY** small group.

"May God Almighty bless you, and make you fruitful and multiply you, that you may be an assembly of peoples..." Genesis 28:3 (NKJ)

• Repeatedly cast vision – beware of vision leakage.





What We Do

To help spiritual seekers become transformed believers who model Purpose Driven Lives and motivate others to do the same.

With _____

"I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd puts the sheep before himself, sacrifices himself if necessary. A hired man is not a real shepherd. The sheep mean nothing to him. He sees a wolf come and runs for it, leaving the sheep to be ravaged and scattered by the wolf. He's only in it for the money. The sheep don't matter to him." John 10:11-13 (Msg)

With _____

"He felt great pity for the crowds that came, because their problems were so great and they didn't know where to go for help. They were like sheep without a shepherd. He said to his disciples, "The harvest is so great, but the workers are so few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest: ask him to send out more workers for his fields." Matthew 9:36-38 (NLT)

"Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it..." Matthew 9:36-38 (NLT)

With

["]Sooner or later we'll all have to face God, regardless of our conditions. We will appear before Christ and take what's coming to us as a result of our actions, either good or bad." 2 Corinthians 5:10 (Msg)

3. UNDERSTAND THAT ORGANIZATIONAL IS A **CRITICAL PART OF HEALTH**

- Community Leaders Strategy
 - Small Group University
 - Relational connections
- Area Leaders Strategy
 - Relational one-on-ones
- Small Group Ministry Strategy
 - Relational (health over reports)
 - Affinity
 - Geography

"So Paul stayed there for the next year and a half, teaching the word of God." Acts 18:11 (NLT)

"After spending some time in Antioch. Paul set out from there and traveled from place to place throughout the region of Galatia and Phrygia, strengthening all the disciples." Acts 18:23 (NIV)

Community Leader Strategy 1:25



Community Leader Tasks

GIVING CARE:

Each Community Leader cares for 25 to 30 small groups including a monthly connect, handling problems/issues as they arise, and helping groups balance the purposes by completing the Spiritual Health Assessment and creating a Spiritual Group Health Plan.

CONNECTING PEOPLE:

Oversee the connection of all people in your area looking to get into a small group. This involves a reactive effort to connect all people seeking groups into existing or new groups. Proactively, the team will work to connect all unconnected 201 grads to small groups.

TRAINING LEADERS:

Oversee all training of all new Hosts in your area. This involves getting new Hosts to Leader Training 1 (centralized) and delivering the content of Leader Training 2 (decentralized) to provide the Host with the tools needed to lead a group.

P.E.A.C.E. COACHING:

To help a small group successfully complete a P.E.A.C.E. trip and to help them continue taking the next steps in missions.

Role	Goals
CONNECTING PEOPLE	1. Connect all people referred.
	 Make sure all interested people have connected to a small group.
TRAINING LEADERS	1. 50% of leaders through LT1 and LT2 by the end of the year.
	2. Develop training calendar/process.
P.E.A.C.E. COACHING	1. To shepherd, encourage, motivate and team building.
	2. Help identify a Small Group P.E.A.C.E. Champion in every group.
	3. Provide available resources to help small groups do P.E.A.C.E
PERSONAL CARE	GROUP CARE
1. Attend all CL meetings.	1. Contact all of your assigned groups monthly.
2. Complete Health Assessment	2. Categorize your groups into four tiers.
and have a Health Plan.	Priority Care - those groups which are new
3. Be in a small group.	 Personal Care - those groups where a relationship is formed
	 Phone/email care – those groups where we know them and are confident with their experience
	 Persistent Care – those groups which are late adopters.
	3. Have each group complete a Health Assessment and Health Plan.
	 Get all group leaders to take the next step in training (LT1 or LT2).

Area Leader Strategy 1:250









CONNECTION Affinity Events to bring awareness across the church. *Ex. Campaigns, Men's Conference, etc.*

COMMUNITY Affinity Events which utilize people's gifts to reach 25 to 100 people. *Ex. Retreats, Seminars, etc.*

CURRICULUM

Affinity based tools and resources to support small groups.

CARE

Care for Community Leaders using the Health Assessment/Planner, training, events, and meetings.

PURPOSE	GOAL	OBSTACLE	STRATEGY	LEADER DEVELOPMENT
Fellowship	Connect to Community	Isolation	Campaigns	LT2 Reconciliation LT2 Skills
Discipleship	Being Like Christ What's your next spiritual step?	Immaturity	Curriculum Pathway	LT2 Health LT2 Tools
Ministry	Ministry to Believers	Insignificance	Serving Pathway	LT2 Empower
Evangelism	Mission to Unbelievers	Inadequacy	PEACE (personal, local, global)	LT2 PEACE
Worship	Surrender to Christ	Intimacy (lack of)	Health Assessment Health Plan Spiritual Partner	LT2 Character LT2 HA/HP

Small Group Ministry Strategy