

Small Church Community Group Covenant

Purpose: to provide a predictable environment where members experience authentic community and spiritual growth.

Don't miss, except for emergencies. A small group works because members make the group a priority.

Share yourself. The small group atmosphere should encourage openness and transparency. Let people know you to the extent you are comfortable. How you feel and how you perceive life matters.

Listen closely to others. Don't give advice, counsel or therapy (unless asked specifically), but let people know you understand and are trying to appreciate the feelings they are expressing.

Never argue your point or badger another. Be yourself, but don't try to win others over to your viewpoint. People can be different. Differences enhance the group.

Show support to each person in the group. Help people see their strengths and help them when they are not using their strengths. Never say anything that will embarrass your spouse or other members of the group.

Honor God's work. We recognize God is at work in our Church community and in honoring His work we will be positive in our conversations about our Church, our Pastoral staff, and our group.

Nothing said leaves the group. For authenticity to occur, members must be able to trust that issues discussed within the group are not to be shared outside of the group.

Group Guidelines:

1. The group will meet on _____ night/day, starting _____ (date).
2. The group meetings will begin at _____ and end at _____.
3. The group time will typically consist of 30 minutes of fellowship and 1 hour of prayer, learning and faith sharing.
4. Group members will attend and participate on a regular basis, twice a month minimum.
5. Members agree to pray for other members on a weekly basis.

I covenant together with the members of this group to honor this agreement.

_____ (your signature)

_____ (printed name)