



SUMMIT VIEW CHURCH

WE EXIST TO BRING GLORY TO GOD AND HELP PEOPLE BECOME MORE LIKE JESUS

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Life Group Startup Guide

This guide is intended to help groups get started on solid ground. Good communications are key to any relationship and having this information discussed as groups begins and as new members added helps avoid misunderstandings and opens the door for building lifelong relationships. If you have any questions, please contact a Life Group Coach by emailing groups@summitview.net

Suggested Group Basics

- Decide if the group will meet Weekly or Bi-Weekly.
 - The advantage of weekly is if someone misses 1 week they do not miss seeing people for an entire month.
- Agree upon a group start time and end time.
- Gather vital information (name, address, kids, phone numbers, birth dates, anniversary dates, etc.)
- How does each member like to communicate? Phone – email – text message
- Who will treats be provided. Host, on a schedule, etc..
- Normal Group Agenda. For Example
 - first 30 minutes' kitchen time to get settled in and catchup individually
 - group business (events, schedules, etc.)
 - group topical discussion
 - group prayer (praises and requests)
 - once a month break out into guys and gals separately.

Suggested Commitments

- If you are unable to attend group, promise to notify facilitator at least 1 hour in advance so group is not waiting.
- All group members commit to attending as many meetings as possible for the first few months. This helps establish stronger connections with each other (establishing foundation)

Suggested Boundaries

- Comfort and Safety
 - Assumed everything said is confidential - what is said in group stays in group - no outside gossip
 - No arguing unless it is healthy debate - issues with a member is discussed with leader first.
 - No confrontations unless it is a group planned intervention coordinated with leader.
 - No major off topic tangents unless facilitator feels the holy spirit is leading in that direction.
 - If person has an issue with leader they can reach out to a Coach.
 - You can participate at whatever level you feel comfortable
- Establish topics not to discuss in group unless appropriate and group agrees prior to meeting start
 - Politics, world events, sex (partner may not want you to share), etc.
- If children are in the same location as group, how do we minimize distractions so we can grow deeper?
 - Where will kids be and what will they be doing during study time? Another room?
 - Do we instruct kids not to interrupt unless _____ (bleeding, broken, brawling, burning)
 - Should you take a break mid time to check on kids?
 - Is it OK for someone else to correct your child?
 - Should or do we share the cost of baby sitter at group?