

Group Launch Playbook

Agenda:

Week One: Get to Know Each Other

Week Two: Groups Vision Walkthrough

Week Three: Covenant Walkthrough

Week four: Signing the Covenant

Before group: Begin preparing the space. It should be clean, vacuumed, pets put away, water/coffee/etc. available. Check bathrooms for cleanliness. Ensure appropriate seating. Have a 2nd meeting space available and prepared for accountability.

A Typical Group meeting Agenda:

6:30: Participants enter and initial interactions/conversation.

6:45: Go over announcements, upcoming plans, housekeeping

6:55: Transition to Discussion

7:45: Break for accountability and prayer

8:15: Transition to time of prayer

8:30: End on time

Week 1: Get to Know Each Other

The group will stay together the entire night for the first few weeks.

Some good initial questions:

How did you find Gospel City?

How long have you been attending?

What made you stay?

Who lived with you in your home growing up?

What was the spiritual climate of your home?

What are your expectations for our group?

What made you want to join a group?

Use remaining time if any to share testimonies. The goal is 5-10 minutes per person.

Ask: What was your life like before Christ?

When and how did you submit your life to Jesus?

How has Jesus changed you?

What is God currently teaching you?



Week 2: Vision for Home Groups

**“Groups are Disciple making communities practicing the One
Others for the glory of God.”**

Disciple Making Communities...

We’re after a community that supports Gospel City’s vision to make mature disciples of Jesus. Our groups have the specific goal of helping each other mature in Christlikeness. This means you may not find your closest friends in a group, but hopefully you will discover a group of people who care about the most important things in your life. The main goal is not community, it is transformation into Christlikeness. A “One Another” community supports that goal.

Practicing the One Others...

There are more than 50 commands from scripture that describe how we are to relate to each other. Here are a few:

Love (John 13:34)

Be **devoted** to (Romans 12:10)

Honor (Romans 12:10)

Live in **harmony** (Romans 12:16)

Build up (Romans 14:19)

Serve (Galatians 5:13)

Bear burdens (Galatians 6:2)

Forgive (Ephesians 4:2, 32)

Be **patient** (Ephesians 4:2)

Be **kind** (Ephesians 4:32)

Comfort (1 Thessalonians 4:18)

Confess your sins (James 5:16)

Pray for (James 5:16)

Care for (1 Corinthians 12:14-25)

Home groups give us the opportunity to practice these “One Others.”

Ask: What “One others” do you most value and why? Which do you typically undervalue?

For the Glory of God.

The purpose for our lives, for our church and our groups is to bring God glory. It anchors the *why* of group life. Groups encourage disciples to live out what they learn in the scriptures. They also hold disciples accountable to the commitments they’ve made.

Ask: Is there anything here that challenges your conceptions of what a group should be?

The 4 Pillars of Gospel City

Unapologetic Preaching

Unashamed Adoration

Unceasing Prayer

Unafraid Witness

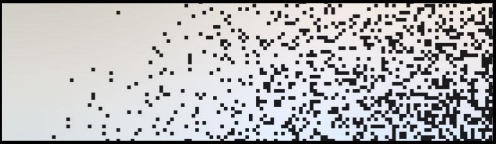
The Discipleship Pathway

Glorify

Gather

Grow

Go



Week 3 at Group

Small Group Covenant

Your group will commit better to a document you have input on. You together are agreeing to the covenant with each other. This document should be reinforced quarterly and should be used to hold each other accountable to the commitments you all are making.

With an understanding of the vision for groups, the mission of Gospel City, the pillars, the discipleship pathway and the “One Anothers,” work through the components of the covenant.

1. We agree that our groups will pursue...
 - a. Ask: Is there anything unclear or missing?
2. Our group will...
 - a. Ask: Is there anything unclear or missing?
3. I will personally...
 - a. Ask: Is there anything unclear or missing?
4. Pray together that your group would actually live out what you’ve agreed to.
5. End group by challenging each member to pray and think through the covenant in preparation for the group the following week.

Week 4 at Group

Conversation and Signing of the Covenant

Ask: How did the Lord lead you this week as you looked over this Covenant?

Ask: What’s missing?

Ask: What is going to be the most difficult thing for you to stay committed to?

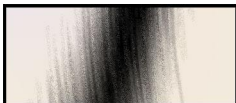
Ask: Is there anything you’re unwilling to commit to?

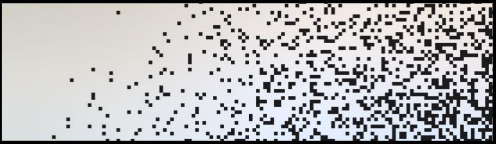
If conversation leads you to believe you need another week to process and pray, do that. Don’t rush the process.

After the conversation, have your group actually sign the document.

Remember: Everybody agrees to hold each other accountable to these commitments.

Reinforce the covenant at least quarterly and more often if necessary.





Gospel City Group Covenant

WE AGREE THAT OUR GROUP WILL PURSUE:

1. Community
2. Consistency
3. Accountability
4. Confidentiality
5. Serving and missional opportunities
6. Bible Study
7. Gospel Centered Transformation
8. Prayer

The One anothers:

1. Love
2. Be devoted to
3. Honor
4. Live in harmony
5. Build up
6. Serve
7. Bear burdens
8. Forgive
9. Be patient
10. Be kind
11. Comfort
12. Confess your sins
13. Pray for
14. Care for

OUR SMALL GROUP WILL:

1. Meet every week on _____ at _____ and end at about _____.
2. Be hospitable to any visitors to our group.
3. Grow spiritually by studying God's Word for life application as a community.
4. Pursue transparent and vulnerable accountability.
6. Pray with one another during every group meeting.
7. Serve together, inside and outside of Gospel City.
8. Do fun activities together!

I WILL PERSONALLY:

1. Make Small Group meetings a priority, and if I am running late or unable to attend, I will let the group know.
2. Gladly welcome newcomers.
3. Be prepared and ready to participate in the discussion of that week's content.
4. Keep confidential the personal information shared.
5. Create a safe place for each member to share with no judgments attached.
6. Be accountable to the group concerning my spiritual growth.
7. Maintain a humble attitude, ready to serve others inside and outside our group.
8. Pray regularly for my fellow members and for the pastors and elders of Gospel City Church.
9. Pursue genuine relationships with the members of my group.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

