



GROUP GUIDELINES

GATHER

GROW

GO

These guidelines help us set some boundaries during our 3/3s discipleship small groups and helps everyone feel comfortable in sharing transparently.

Confidentiality. What is said in the group stays in the group.

Respect. We encourage sharing during our mutual time and we keep our sharing focused on our own thoughts and feelings and allow for others to share also. No one is required to share if they don't want to, but it is encouraged as we gather, grow, and go.

NO cross talk. We avoid interrupting someone while they are speaking, and we do not have side conversations or lecture the group during this time. We allow those in the group to open up and reflect on their highs and lows of the last week.

NO fixing. The small group gets together to support each other and not "fix" each other. Don't try to give advice or solutions during a meeting.

NO rescuing. When someone is sharing something deeply personal there can be a tendency to try make them feel better about themselves or the situation by providing immediate condolences, such as placing a comforting hand on them or offering a tissue. These well-intended gestures will often cause them to stop sharing.

"I" statements. It's easy to talk about the issues of others, but the goal of our group is personal reflection, assessment, and growth. When sharing use "I" statements rather than "them" "the church" "we" "you" etc.

NO hyperlinking. When doing the <u>discovery sword method</u> and asking the 4 questions about, God, Man, Example and Command and someone is taking the discussion away towards other texts or ideas. Always bring it back by asking "<u>Where is that in this passage??</u> This will keep the group on track and helps those who are new to the Bible, as they may not be familiar with those other passages or ideas, and it also keeps debates and unnecessary arguments out of your discovery bible study.