

**LIFE GROUP COMMITMENT**

Small groups thrive on participation! The purpose of this commitment is to help discuss and clarify your group’s goals, expectations and commitments.

**THE PURPOSE OF LIFE GROUPS**

Life Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful Christian relationships. Some of your groups may include seasoned saints as well as **new believers**. We want to focus on these three primary activities:

# SHARE

Each week we’ll take time to share what is happening in our lives. You could start with asking your group to share a “praise report” from the week or something similar. This will help open conversation on a positive note. After the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as people feel more comfortable sharing.

# STUDY

Each session we ask that you are intentional with sharing an encouraging scripture, devotional, or even content from God’s Word for Life or other apostolic source. You can even share thoughts from a sermon topic preached recently. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life. Each group is different, so make it work for your group.

# SUPPORT

We should be focused on supporting the needs within your community. Getting to know each other in these groups will help in taking care of one another as Christ commanded. This care can take many forms, such as *prayer, encouragement, and listening.*

**MARKS OF A HEALTHY GROUP**

For our group to be healthy, we need to…

1. **Make spiritual growth a goal**. Staying focused on spiritual growth and edification is extremely important. We do not want people getting stuck in negative thinking habits, gossip, or talking poorly about the church, the saints, or ministry. Leaders need to feel comfortable changing a subject that does not bring glory to God.
2. **Staying in line with the core beliefs of our Pastor is key.** When planning events, we must be mindful of events we attend, environment, and resources we use. Anything that could become a stumbling block or cause confusion should be avoided. We understand that each family has individual convictions. But these groups should be in line with the convictions and teaching of our Pastor. (For example: we should not host water related activities that would promote the use of swimwear. This can cause unnecessary confusion and offenses.)
3. **Be respectful of one another’s convictions and opinions.** As a group leader you should be mindful of others and their current walk with God. Sometimes people will want to share things that are way too much for a new person. We also want to stay away from political and controversial topics. As a leader, you must intervene if a topic gets out of hand or if you believe it is too much for a new person to handle. We want to build not destroy. Our Pastor does a wonderful job of addressing controversial topics from the pulpit, so we should **not** have to.
4. **Take care of one another.** Be prepared and organized. If you are hosting an event, make sure you are ready for your guests when they arrive. Your home should be clean and presentable. If you are meeting at a restaurant or coffee shop, do your homework before the event. Will this business accommodate your group, will you be able to sit together? These are questions you need answered, so your event is successful and stress free. Being hospitable is key to having a successful event.
5. **Build connections.** We want you to get to know everyone in your group. Give everyone the opportunity to share info about themselves, their journey with the Lord. But you may get some people who want to take over and just talk about themselves the whole time. As a leader you must be aware of this and figure out how to get others who sit in the background quiet to open-up and connect with the group. No one should feel left out.
6. **Be a good role model.**  We understand that no one is perfect. But as a leader you are representing the Lord and your church. It is important you are committed to always upholding yourself in a Christ Like Manner. For instance, people may look you up on social media to build connections with you. If they see you arguing with someone or posting things that are controversial in nature it could damage their view of you and the church. Please be aware of your role as a leader.
7. **Keep our commitments to the group**. It is important to commit to every date, you have chosen. We do not want these groups to suffer because the meetings are being cancelled. If you are sick, please communicate with your group as soon as possible. We want to share the gospel, not sickness. Outside of sickness, we should plan our dates in a way that it does not conflict with church activities or our personal commitments. That way we can stay committed and focused to our responsibilities.

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**Life Group Application**

1. **Name of group & Leader(s) Name**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. **Dates**We’ll meet on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ nights (day of the week)
every week \_\_\_\_ every other week \_\_\_\_ or once a month \_\_\_\_ (please mark with X)
Our final meeting of this quarter will be on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. **Location**
My group will meet on location within the city of Bradenton please list address and names of locations.
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My Group will meet in my home please list address
\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. **Time**We’ll arrive between \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and begin the meeting at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 We’ll spend approximately \_\_\_\_\_ minutes in study/discussion and \_\_\_\_\_ minutes in prayer/sharing.

1. **Gender**Women only \_\_\_\_ Men only \_\_\_\_\_ Families \_\_\_\_\_ Men or Women \_\_\_\_\_\_
2. **Age**If your group is age specific, please list **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_**
3. **Children**Will children be allowed in your group \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_no (please mark with x)
 Note: If children are not allowed, we must be consistent with this. We don’t want moms bringing children to adult only groups. Group members are responsible to arrange childcare for their children when necessary. Nursing newborns are welcome provided they are not a distraction to the group.
4. **Study**What resources will you be using. If it is a specific bible study, please list information.
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1. **What will be needed**Does group have to have any supplies (books, pen, paper, food, admission cost)
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2. **Additional Info:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Having spent time in prayer regarding my decision of involvement in this ministry, I choose to commit to the following:*** *(please mark with an X next to each statement)*

\_\_\_ I acknowledge the Lordship of Jesus Christ in my life and have a personal relationship with Him.
\_\_\_ I fully support and agree with the convictions, standards and core beliefs of Life Covenant Sanctuary and fully support the ministry of Pastor Eason.

\_\_\_ I agree with and commit to the statements listed in the Marks of a Healthy Group.

\_\_\_ I am committed toward growing and maturing my relationship with God through personal prayer, private devotional and active church attendance.

\_\_\_ I will faithfully attend Life Covenant Sanctuary on scheduled church days and will intentionally identify and greet those in my Community Group.

\_\_\_ I am committed to an attitude and lifestyle that are both Godly and "above reproach" knowing that my lifestyle is a model for all members.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name & Signature | Email & Contact #

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Name & Signature | Email & Contact #

***Contact for Life Groups***

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