

FIND YOUR PEOPLE



GROUPS SEMESTER VISION PLANNER

Only you can lead your Group like you. That's because God has given you a unique passion. He wants to use your story and experiences to help others fully follow him! This planner is a space for you to dream about what God might do in and through your Group. Our hope and prayer is that it will help you lead your Group and yourself in a purposeful direction. If you get stuck, don't sweat it – just reach out to your Next Steps team at your location.

Take a few minutes to work through the guided questions on the pages that follow. If you get stuck, don't sweat it- just reach out to your Next Steps team at your location.

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GROUP VISION:

It takes time to craft a vision that's worth following. To help you clarify where God might be leading you to lead your Group, remember the three values of Groups;

Belonging - Groups are a place where everyone has a seat.

Just as we want to create a church that is open to everyone, we want our Groups to have a seat for whoever is ready to take this step. Groups are a place where people find acceptance and a sense of belonging no matter where they happen to be on their journey with Jesus.

- What will you do to foster a place where people will feel accepted and connected?
- What will relationships look like in your Group?
- Do you have a target audience in mind?

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Becoming - Challenge each other to listen to God and do what he says.

In a Group, we get the unique opportunity to know others on a deeper level. As leaders, we need to gauge where our members are on their journey with Jesus and help them identify and act on their best next step. Life change is a process that takes place over time. We need to give people time and space to process and grow while challenging them to step out in obedience as they follow Jesus. Any time we can get someone to apply God's truth, we're winning.

- Is there any specific next step you are hoping people will take?
- At the end of your 6-8 weeks together, what do you want people to know?
- What are some ways you can invest in your Group members in order to get to know their story and earn the right to speak into their best next step?

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Building - We find practical ways to impact our community from across the street to across the state through intentionally building relationships and serving others.

We add value to the lives of others. This could mean serving together as a Group in our community or encouraging each Group member to invest in their spheres of influence. Bottom line – we want to be good neighbors, and we do that by building into those around us.

- How will the community look different because of your Group?
- What are some practical ways you will encourage your Group members to be good neighbors?

Now that you've taken some time to think through these questions, look them over and spend a few minutes praying. Ask God to help you summarize how you will use your unique passions and talents to help others fully follow Jesus

My vision for my Group is...

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GROUP FLOW

Below are the most common parts of a Group and some information to help you fill in the blank. The flow of your Group is up to you!

- **Conversation** - All Groups spend some time talking together as they build connection.
- **Food** - Some Groups make food part of their rhythm – from snacks to full meals, to coffee.
- **Fun** - Groups aren't just limited to a living room or a room at the church. Many Groups choose to meet over a shared hobby or activity like biking, hiking, or a mom's play date at a park.
- **Learning** - Groups help us to fully follow Jesus, and part of following means turning knowledge into a next step. Every Group spends some time learning and challenging one another to change.
 - *Will you use Message-Based Questions?*
 - *Will you use a study on Right Now Media?*
 - *Will you develop a weekly thought to challenge your Group based from the Scripture?*
 - *Will use use another resource? If so, what and why?*
- **Prayer** - All Groups take some time to share each other's needs and talk to God together.

Over the next 6-8 weeks my Group will connect with God and each other by...

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GROUP LOGISTICS

Below are some critical logistics you'll want to think through and make clear so you and your Group can be on the same page and create a distraction-free environment.

- **Place** - Where will your Group meet? Will it be in a home, at the church, or somewhere in the community?

My Group will meet at:

- **Start Date** - Groups meet consistently for 6-8 weeks. What is the start date of your Group?
- **Time** - It's important to honor Group members' time. What is the start and end time of your weekly Group meeting?

My Group will meet together on these days at this time:

- **People** - People are the secret sauce of Group. In fact, you can't have a Group without them. So, who will you invite and how will you get the word out about your Group so that people show up?

Here are a few ideas to help you get people to your Group!

1. Invite people you already know. This is absolutely the best place to start!
2. Register your Group on the directory. Create a place that's open to others. Let us know you want your Group listed on our online directory so we can help others find a seat.
3. Invite people with shared interests. Who are people you serve with, share a hobby with, or interact with on a regular basis? Don't overlook the power of shared passions or experiences.
4. Become a regular at a gathering and invite the people you go to church with.

My Group won't be empty because I am going to:

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MY GROWTH

How will you grow as a leader?

MY GROUP'S FUTURE

How will you grow as a leader?