

GROUP

LEADER MANUAL

WELCOME TO GROUP LEADER TRAINING

Thank you for your interest in leading a group at Granger Community Church (GCC).

GOAL

Our goal is to create relational environments that will help people take their next steps toward Christ...together.

Groups are all about connecting people in authentic community to help them take their next steps toward Christ. When we enter into community with others who love Jesus, we can build meaningful relationships that provide support and accountability (encouragement/equipping) as we grow as followers/disciples of Jesus and learn to make the way of Jesus normal in our lives.

METHOD

*Jesus not only told us to make disciples but also gave us a model in doing so. I believe that most Christians have divorced the teachings of Jesus from the methods of Jesus and expect to get the results of Jesus. I believe his methods are just as divine as his teachings. He showed us that the fundamental methodology in making disciples is relationships grounded in truth and love. Jesus is the greatest disciple maker in history, and his way works. Discipleship is the emphasis. Relationships are the method. **Jesus invited people into relationships with himself; he loved them and in the process showed them how to follow God.** His primary method was life-on-life.*

—Jim Putman, *Discipleshift*

Intentional Leader + Relational Environment + Reproducible Process = Unlimited number of disciples

Every GCC group will have its own set of unique personalities and scenarios. This training cannot possibly address everything about groups, but by completing the training, we believe you will be well prepared with the vision and framework you need to help those in your group take their next steps toward Christ.

HELPING PEOPLE

TAKE THEIR NEXT STEPS

TOWARD CHRIST...

Together.

MISSION, VISION, VALUES

MISSION

- Helping people take their next steps toward Christ...together.

The Great Commandment

- *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself.”*

—Matthew 22:37-39

The Great Commission

- *“Go, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”*

—Matthew 28:19-20

- Within this mission we find five purposes that God calls us to live by:
 - **Worship** - *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.*
 - **Ministry** - *Love your neighbor as yourself.*
 - **Evangelism** - *Go, and make disciples of all nations...*
 - **Fellowship** - *...baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...*
 - **Discipleship** - *...and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.*

G.R.A.N.G.E.R. VISION

- **G**rowing with intent
By 2020, we will see double-digit growth in engagement in every area of ministry. Ephesians 2:10 – “To do good...”
- **R**eaching all generations
With passion and intentionality, we will effectively communicate a relevant, uncompromised biblical message to every unique generation.
- **A**dvancing our mission through the arts
Jesus Christ will be worshiped at Granger Community Church through a broad expression of the arts. Hearts will be touched, emotions stirred, minds opened and lives forever changed through an excellent and compelling presentation of the arts.

- **N**urturing spiritual growth
Through vibrant Bible study, worship and prayer, we will create contagious environments for learning, growing and becoming more like Jesus.
- **G**athering in groups
Our family will grow until every unconnected person is a fully-devoted follower of Jesus Christ and is connected in authentic relationships.
- **E**ncourage effective ministry
Our infrastructure will facilitate ministry and celebrate innovation, passion and excellence in every expression of our radical devotion to Jesus Christ.
- **R**esourcing the Church
We will enthusiastically give our resources, experience and giftedness to train and encourage those intent on building prevailing churches.

VALUES

- **Steps.** Which way are your feet pointed?
God wants us to grow up, to know the whole truth and tell it in love—like Christ in everything. We take our lead from Christ, who is the source of everything we do. He keeps us in step with each other. His very breath and blood flow through us, nourishing us so that we will grow up healthy in God, robust in love.
—Ephesians 4:15-16
- **Team.** We is better than me.
Make a careful exploration of who you are and the work you have been given, and then sink yourself into that. Don't be impressed with yourself. Don't compare yourself with others. Each of you must take responsibility for doing the creative best you can with your own life. Be very sure now, you who have been trained to a self-sufficient maturity, that you enter into a generous common life with those who have trained you, sharing all the good things that you have and experience.
—Galatians 6:4-6
- **Impact.** Whatever it takes.
And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
—Colossians 3:17
- **Love.** People matter.
“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: “Love your neighbor as yourself.”
—Matthew 22:37-39
- **Truth.** It dares you to see things differently.
Understanding your word brings light to the minds of ordinary people.
I'm here inviting outsiders, not insiders—an invitation to a changed life, changed inside and out.
—Psalm 119:130
— Luke 5:30-32

GATHERING IN GROUPS AT

GRANGER COMMUNITY CHURCH

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO GATHER IN GROUPS?

Intentional Leader + Relational Environment + Reproducible Process = Unlimited number of disciples

Intentional Leader: Understands that part of their role is to reach the lost, make disciples of Jesus and lead in or create Christ-centered environments where disciple-making can happen.

- Characteristics of an Intentional Leader

I. Know the way

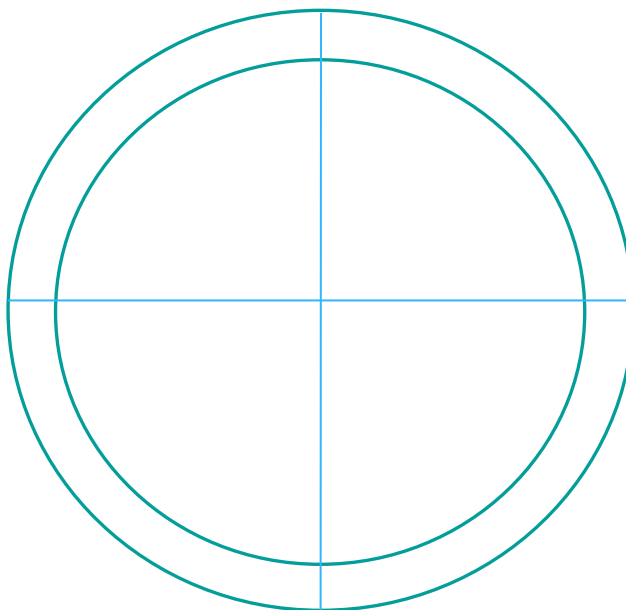
- Understand the basics of who God is, what He has done, who they are and what they are called to do.
- Understand how to properly engage the Bible and use it to guide themselves and others.
- Understand the purpose of the Church and their role in it.
- They live life with a Biblical worldview and help others learn how to live with a Biblical worldview.

II. Know their people

- Able to evaluate where others are on their spiritual journey, enabling them to take the next right step to develop as a disciple of Jesus.

You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

—Deuteronomy 6:7



- Intentional leadership requires proximity and time.

The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.
—Luke 6:45

III. Know themselves

- Accurate assessment of where they are in the spiritual growth process.
- Understand what is required of them to lead others.

Questions to ask ourselves:

- Where am I in my level of spiritual maturity?
- What step is my next step in order to grow in spiritual maturity?

Relational Environments: A group of 3-12 people facilitated by a leader who is intentionally modeling spiritual fruit (love, joy, peace, etc.). The people involved are doing life together with a kingdom mindset. The relationships go beyond just a group time. They move from strangers to friendship. These relationships press into areas of privacy, transparency and vulnerability.

- **Real Teaching:** explaining the Word so that those in the group can understand it right where they are, whatever their stage of spiritual growth.
- **Shepherding:** protect the sheep in their care and lead them to grow spiritually.
- **Transparency:** no pretending to be something or somebody you are not; allow others to see you for who you really are.
- **Accountability:** intentionally encourage/equip someone else in helping them fulfill God's plan and purposes for their life.
- **Guided Practice:** a process of helping others practice what they are learning in order to reproduce the discipleship process in others.

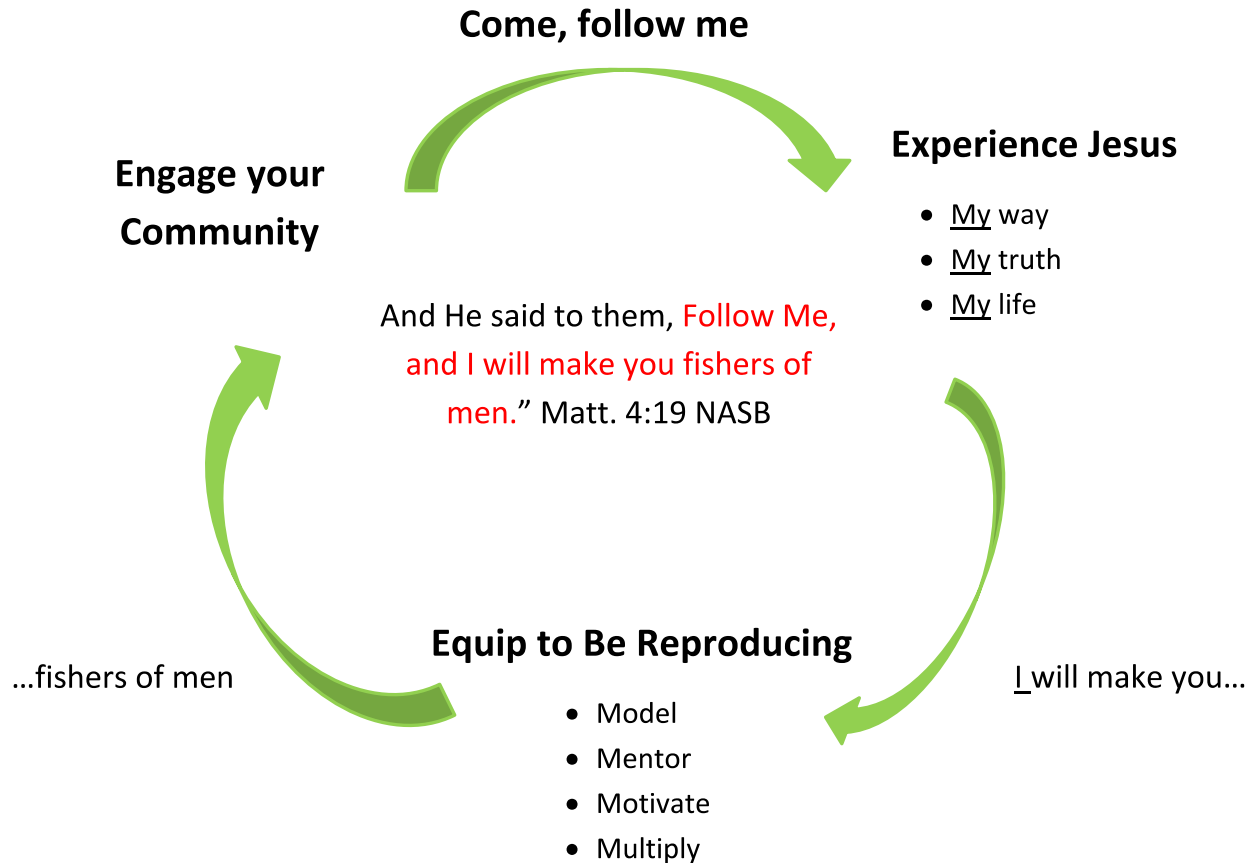
"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

—Acts 2:42-47

Reproducible Process: A process enabling the next wave of leaders to understand what it means to make disciples and how to do it.

E3 ESSENTIALS

The 3 “E”s: Experience, Equip, Engage



WHY ARE GROUP LEADERS IMPORTANT?

Group leaders are some of the primary people God uses to help others take their next steps toward Christ. It’s much more than opening your home once a week and inviting people over. Leading a group helps build a core community for people in our church so they can *experience* Jesus, be *equipped* as disciples and *engage* their community. It’s also about intentionally identifying, developing and sending new group leaders to go and lead their own groups. Group leaders have the mindset to not just maintain their group, but multiply it. Why multiply? Because everyone deserves the chance to know the full life of following Jesus and growing in their faith in connected community.

“Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another...” —Hebrews 10:24-25a

There is no perfect blueprint for what a group should look like, but no matter how many different types of groups we have, we believe the E3 Essentials are the foundation for a successful group.

Success is defined by healthy groups comprised of members who love better, give generously, serve willingly, worship whole-heartedly, care for and encourage one another and reproduce their lives in others. All this reflects people taking their next steps toward Christ together, and looking more and more like Jesus.

EXPERIENCE JESUS

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength.”

—Matthew 22:37

PRAY (It focuses your leadership around the work Jesus wants to do in and through you.)

- Pray consistently with your group each time you meet
- Pray for group members throughout the week
- Pray before your group arrives
- Share prayer requests within the group, maintaining confidentiality

INVEST (Your impact will reflect your level of investment.)

- Relationally
 - Learn their stories
 - Plan and engage in activities outside of the normal group setting
 - Remember special days in their lives
 - Exchange contact info
- Consistently
 - Meet with your group on a regular basis and on a set schedule. If you frequently cancel your group meetings, you will lose momentum.
 - Send encouraging texts and emails. Be intentional. Demonstrate what you expect.

CARE (Love, encourage and support.)

- Spiritually—you are their shepherd and we expect you to provide the spiritual care that they need.
 - Listen to them
 - Pray with them
 - Share scripture with them
 - Share resource ideas with them
- Practically—we expect you to both celebrate the great events of life and offer support in the hard times.
 - Support or celebrate with them
 - Connect them to available resources
- Professionally—you are going to face some major challenges in the lives of your people. Some will be more than you can handle. We are not expecting you to be counselors.
 - Listen to them, pray with them, connect them to GCC’s Care team.

EQUIP TO BE REPRODUCING DISCIPLES

“Go, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

—Matthew 28:19-20

This command of Jesus instructs that we are not only to develop ourselves as disciples, but to lead others into discipleship. It means the goal for our groups is not to just *maintain* but to *multiply*! The majority of the time, discipleship follows fellowship. Jesus set the example for us in how He invited His disciples to follow Him, built friendships, challenged them to greater leadership and then sent them out to lead others. We encourage you to follow this model.

SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

- Encourage group members to spend consistent, regular time with Jesus.
- Encourage them to live out what Jesus is teaching them.
- Ask: *What is Jesus telling or showing you? What are you doing about it?*
- Model a “next-step” personal walk with Jesus, showing them how you take ownership of your personal growth. *How is Jesus growing you? What is God teaching you?*

BE DISCIPLESHIP-MINDED

- Know the stages of the spiritual growth wheel.
- Next learn how to identify where people are in their spiritual growth by their language and behaviors and how to encourage appropriate next steps (spiritual growth wheel).

PLAY TO YOUR STRENGTHS

- God has gifted you with a unique set of strengths and abilities. Instead of trying to perform every role associated with leading your group on your own, focus on the ways God has gifted you and that add the most value to your group. Then, identify members who are gifted in ways that you are not and who could be exercising their own gifts to help lead.

ENGAGE YOUR COMMUNITY

“Love your neighbor as yourself.”

—Matthew 22:39

SERVE

- Be intentional to interact with and serve those around you who do not follow Christ.
- Participate as a group in the quarterly #4Michiana service events. They will be promoted on the weekends and on the Web site.
- Assist group members in discovering their strengths and encourage them to serve regularly at their GCC campus.

INVITE

- Keep an open chair in your group so there is always an opportunity for someone new to join you and celebrate when this seat is filled.
- Be intentional about inviting people who don’t know Jesus to attend a weekend service with you.
- When launching a new group, invite those in your communities (work, neighborhood, school, etc.) to join your group.

GET READY

GET READY

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

Leading a group starts with the simple commitment to either open your home or find another location to meet with a group of people looking to grow in their faith. The next step to leading a successful group is in how you prepare yourself and the environment.

ATMOSPHERE

Atmosphere is often the last ten percent of what a leader plans for but is the first ten percent that people notice. At GCC, we make a point to focus on every detail in our worship experiences so that nothing stands in the way of someone taking their next step toward Christ. As a group leader, we expect you to do the same.

- Clean up.
- Control the atmosphere.
 - Temperature, seating, scent.
- Conducive to conversation.
 - Make sure you are able to hear each other when you talk.
- Remove distractions. Potential distractions are:
 - Food—keep it simple
 - Alcohol—keep it out of sight
 - Kids and/or pets
 - Phones
- When in doubt ask, “What would it take for me to feel completely comfortable in someone else’s home?”

GET REAL

Intimate relationships take time, even years. Genuine relating happens today.

- Intimate is when I can share anything at any time and they listen and still love me and vice versa.
- On average, people experience five to six intimate relationships in their *lifetime*.
- Genuine is scalable. It is proportionate to the level of the relationships in the room. Demonstrate healthy boundaries.

Healthy Christ-followers are real about who they are and where they are. (2 Corinthians 1:3-7)

- When you are real and vulnerable, it helps people realize that while you’re not perfect, you are at a place in your journey where they can follow you.
- Being real helps others to be real.

Real care can only be experienced when we’re real. (1 John 1:9)

- It’s hard to get real care when you are not real with those around you.
- When you are real, you can really be cared about.

GET TALKING

Facilitating is **NOT** about...

- Teaching
 - This can be tough as a leader because of our natural desire to help elevate an individual's life.
 - Refrain from using this time as your own teaching session or free advice service. Unless someone asks for this, it can be a huge turn off for people in the group.
- Having all the answers
 - Learn to say the words *I don't know* or *I'm not sure*. It's always better to ask someone who might know the answer and bring that answer the following week than to make up an answer that you think is right.
 - Create gaps or spaces that can actually be very helpful for the growth of those in your group.
 - Gaps cause people to voice their thoughts, express their doubts and reveal their individual spiritual concerns—what they need in order to move forward with God.
 - Mentoring, discipleship and spiritual formation happen in the gaps. The leader's primary responsibility is to stand in the gap with participants.
 - In many cases, the Discussion Guide content will create more questions than it answers.
 - Once questions are voiced, a capable leader will have plenty of opportunities to share helpful information, thoughts and guidance—not necessarily answers—that enable participants to take the next step toward finding their place in God's story.

Facilitating **IS** about...

- Life-change
 - As Philippians 1:6 suggests, it is *God* who began a good work in the hearts of your group members.
 - Facilitators are to assist in the process of spiritual development that's already going on in each person's life.
 - You're helping people process the spiritual issues and concepts that God is already surfacing in their lives.
 - Remember that we usher people into a place where they can hear from Jesus. The Holy Spirit changes people. We don't. (2 Corinthians 3:18)
- Great Questions
 - The best questions are those that lead others to discover the truth about the questions they themselves are asking.
 - Two questions we ask frequently are: What is Jesus saying to you? What are you doing about it?
- Shared Conversation
 - Cross talk is a sign of great facilitation. If you can leave the room and the group is still talking and discussing, that's a win.
- Sub-grouping
 - A large group meeting in one location is encouraged to sub-group into smaller groups for discussion.

GET CHALLENGED

Challenging Personalities

- These can include people who are dominating, aggressive, special-interest pleading, pranking or consistently negative, etc.
- If a challenging personality is not addressed, it may be seen as condoned by you or by GCC.
- Connect with the person in private, not in front of the group.
- Use real-time coaching
 - Address the issue in real time. Don't wait until the next week. The sooner the issue is addressed, the better.
 - Approach the person in love and use the sandwich approach: start positive/share the issue/end positive.

Challenging Problems

- Challenging problems can include:
 - Absenteeism and arriving late
 - The group leader is responsible to individually follow up with authentic love and genuine care. "We missed you at group today and I just wanted to check in to see how you were doing." "How can I pray for you this week?"
 - Off-topic rabbit trails
 - Sometimes these can actually turn into times of great ministry for your group. If someone goes off topic to share an issue they are going through, put the agenda on pause and provide support and prayer during that time.
 - If consistent rabbit trails occur or occur by the same person ongoing, the leader is responsible to redirect the conversation. "That's a great idea for another time, but who would like to share on the topic at hand." "What an interesting point. I hope we can talk about that at a different time."
 - Prayer
 - Be careful that prayer doesn't turn into gossip.
 - Be sensitive to those who have never prayed out loud before. Don't ask individuals to pray aloud until you know they're comfortable doing so.
 - Help introduce normal conversational prayer in simple ways by inviting others to participate. "Let's end our time today by going around and all thanking God for something out loud." "Who would be willing to read this scripture as our opening or closing prayer for the group?" "Would someone help pray for this person's one prayer request?"
 - Difficulty navigating scripture
 - Be aware that not everyone knows how to look things up in the Bible.
 - Some may also not know how to pronounce everything in the Bible.
 - Be intentional as a leader to create a space where people feel like they belong and are accepted regardless of vast biblical knowledge or lack there of.

DON'T JUST LEAD IT, OWN IT

MANAGE YOUR GROUP ONLINE

In order for us to effectively manage our groups, we use an online tool through my.grangerchurch.com/mobiletools (available on mobile devices). We will create your group online and designate you as the leader, which will allow you to do the following:

- Post attendance.
- Send group emails.

Any other assistance or functions regarding maintenance of your group should be emailed to Justine Lightfoot at jlightfoot@grangerchurch.com.

HELP US HELP YOU

As you lead, it is very important to maintain consistent communication with GCC staff regarding the following:

- Steps
 - Our mission is to help people take their next steps toward Christ...together. When members of your group take steps—both big and small—we would love to know. Share these by posting on the GCC Groups Facebook page (with permission from those you are sharing about of course). Also, take time to celebrate these steps with your group.
- Stories
 - Often, the most encouraging stories are those that describe how God is at work in the lives of those in our church. These stories not only encourage us, but also challenge us to live in step with who God has called us to be. Share these stories of what God is up to!
- Challenges
 - You will have people in your group facing challenges that you don't know how to handle or fix. Connect with our Care team for advice: Chris Glantz, cglantz@grangerchurch.com. We are here to help.

STAY IN THE KNOW

We use two primary sources to communicate all important group information.

- Facebook
 - If you have a Facebook account, we'll add you to our private GCC Groups Facebook page. It's a great place to network with other group leaders.
- Email
 - Please make sure we have a valid email address for you!
- Churchwide
 - Receive our Enews updates to be informed of events and happenings across the life of our church.

ROLE SUMMARIES

Group Leadership Role Summaries and Expectations

Leading a group is a *big deal*. You are held to a high level of accountability and responsibility in this role. You don't have to be perfect, but we do expect you to commit to grow in your faith and embrace your opportunities as a leader at GCC.

AT GCC, WE WILL:

- Help you discover and use the skills, talents and interests that God has placed inside of you.
- Provide you with the resources you need to lead your group, and a structure for those resources to be used effectively.
- Provide any necessary support for roster and attendance management and group care.

GROUP LEADER

Leads a group with an average of 8-10 people using the 3 E's. Group leaders are intentional about connecting group members and encouraging them to grow in their faith and leadership.

- Complete the group leader application online.
- Determine who your co-leader will be.
- Attend Core Class 101.
- Begin your group with at least two to three people whom you personally invited to be in the group.
- Lead a group of people who meet together regularly (usually in timeframes of 12-16 week group semesters).
- Practice the E3 Essentials both personally and with your group.
- Recognize the impact of your actions; that you are a reflection of Jesus Christ and Granger Community Church. As a leader in ministry with us, please remain in alignment with our mission, vision and values everywhere you are, including social media.
- Support the values of GCC and ensure that your group reflects those values in all areas.
- Communicate expectations to your group every week. (see additional resources)
- Budget time to be prepared before your group meets each time.
- Seek out wise counsel from the GCC Discipleship team in continuing your intentional leadership development.
- Identify and develop leaders in your group who can then eventually launch their own group. Promote and encourage group duplication.
- Attend the Discipleship Summits twice each year.
- Keep your group roster active and your attendance up to date.

GROUP COACH

Develops a relationship and provides support to group leaders. Cares for leaders the same way a group leader cares for their group. Is intentional about developing them as leaders and affirming that development.

- Complete all 301 Core Trainings.
- Oversee three to five group leaders.
- Lead, care for and affirm the group leaders assigned to you through huddles, group visits and one-on-one meetings.
- Contact each group leader via phone or email to develop your relationship, debrief group meetings, encourage and provide insight. Troubleshoot problems if needed.
- Visit your leaders' groups semi-annually.
- Encourage attendance of group leaders to all events and trainings.
- Attend coach huddles each quarter.
- Be available to connect with your group coach mentor. (if applicable)
- Lead a group of your own or participate in a group.

Frequently Asked Questions

SHOULD I OFFER CHILDCARE?

This depends entirely on the type of people you want to serve as a group leader. If you offer childcare, your group will fill up quickly, guaranteed! Don't feel pressured to provide childcare if that isn't the stage of life you want to serve. It really is up to you.

HOW DO I PROVIDE CHILDCARE?

Unless we have an up-to-date background check on file, the primary childcare provider will need to complete the Background Consent form. There are multiple ways to handle childcare in your home. Discuss with your group what works the best for all of you. Some group leaders hire a sitter each week with each group member contributing to the expense. Get creative!

HOW DO I FILL MY GROUP?

You are the primary salesperson for your group. Connect with the people that God has put in your path. Invite people with whom you volunteer. Invite people you've chatted with at a weekend service. Your personal connections will usually be the majority of your group members. Potential members will also find your group online as they search for groups meeting in their neighborhood or meeting on a day and time that fits their schedule.

CAN I INVITE FRIENDS THAT DON'T ATTEND GCC TO JOIN MY GROUP?

Absolutely! GCC exists to help all people take their next steps toward Christ. Use your group as a vehicle to reach the people closest to you and get them involved with what God is doing. Understand, though, that our group curriculum will be tied directly to the weekend message. It will be helpful for group members to attend GCC in person or online. It's not required but hearing the weekend message will provide a richer experience for those in your group.

NOW THAT I'M A LEADER, DO I HAVE TO DO THIS UNTIL JESUS RETURNS?

No, however we would expect you to lead faithfully through the semester that you are in. Obviously longevity and consistency lead to greater impact. Semester breaks will allow for easy on or off ramps for group leaders and members.

IS IT OK IF ONE OF MY GROUP MEMBERS WANTS TO LEAD THEIR OWN GROUP?

Yes! In fact, that's one of your primary goals as a group leader. Reproduce yourself! We encourage every group leader to identify at least one person or couple in their group who has the potential to lead their own group. Shift some of your leadership responsibility to them in preparation for them starting their own group at the next launch.

WHERE IS THE BEST PLACE TO GET GROUP LEADER INFORMATION SO I CAN FEEL EQUIPPED TO LEAD?

Glad you asked! If you have a Facebook account, we will add you to the private GCC Groups Facebook page as well. If you don't have a Facebook account, email Justine Lightfoot at jlightfoot@grangerchurch.com. She will assist you in getting the answers you need.

GROUP EXPECTATIONS

This is to be shared regularly with the group to keep vision and expectation clear.

As a group, we will agree to the following expectations. We want to allow everyone to maximize their group experience.

- **Safe Space:** This time and all content will be shared through a perspective that is honoring to Jesus in His grace, truth and love.
- **Time/Attendance:** We will honor our schedules by starting and ending on time. We will also **commit** to showing up every week and call in advance if we're not able to attend.
- **Discussion:** Recognize that this is a safe environment for discussion and conversation, **not teaching**, advising, preaching or side conversations. I will allow time for necessary **silence**, allowing a person to finish their thought and processing time for the group to consider what's been said.
- **Listen:** We will value others during the discussions by actively listening to what is being shared.
- **Self-Awareness:** I will stretch myself to be as open and honest as I can with my perspectives and experiences. I will appreciate that some are comfortable sharing and some are not. I will be aware of not dominating the discussion nor will I always leave the weight of it to others.
- **No Fixing or Rescuing:** We are not here to fix each other or save each other. Jesus does that part. We are here to give encouragement, love and support.
- **Ownership:** I will do my part to create a great group. I will assist the host/leader in any way I can. The group will only be as good as every member makes it. I will share roles within the group and help challenge everyone to grow.
- **Use "I" Statements:** It's easy to talk about the issues of others, but we are here to authentically share from our own lives. Try to use "I" statements rather than "them", "the church", "us", "we", etc.
- **Conflict:** Community can be messy and conflicts may arise. I'll offer grace to others and won't leave the group over disagreements. I commit to resolving conflict biblically, in a God-honoring way. God often uses conflict to develop and grow our spiritual formation.
- **Spouse (if applicable):** I will honor my spouse or significant other by not revealing anything that we have not previously discussed and agreed upon in private.
- **Confidentiality:** I will commit to making this a safe place. What I hear and say in the group stays in the group. The only exception is if a person is a danger to themselves, others or is engaged in illegal activity*. I will not gossip through prayer or by any other means.

*Seeking guidance from one of the pastors or staff at GCC about a group situation is not considered a breach of group confidentiality.

Emotional Health

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Dead Thiving

My 10:

Next Steps:

Relational Health

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Dead Thiving

My 10:

Next Steps:

Financial Health

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Dead Thiving

My 10:

Next Steps:

Vocational Health

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
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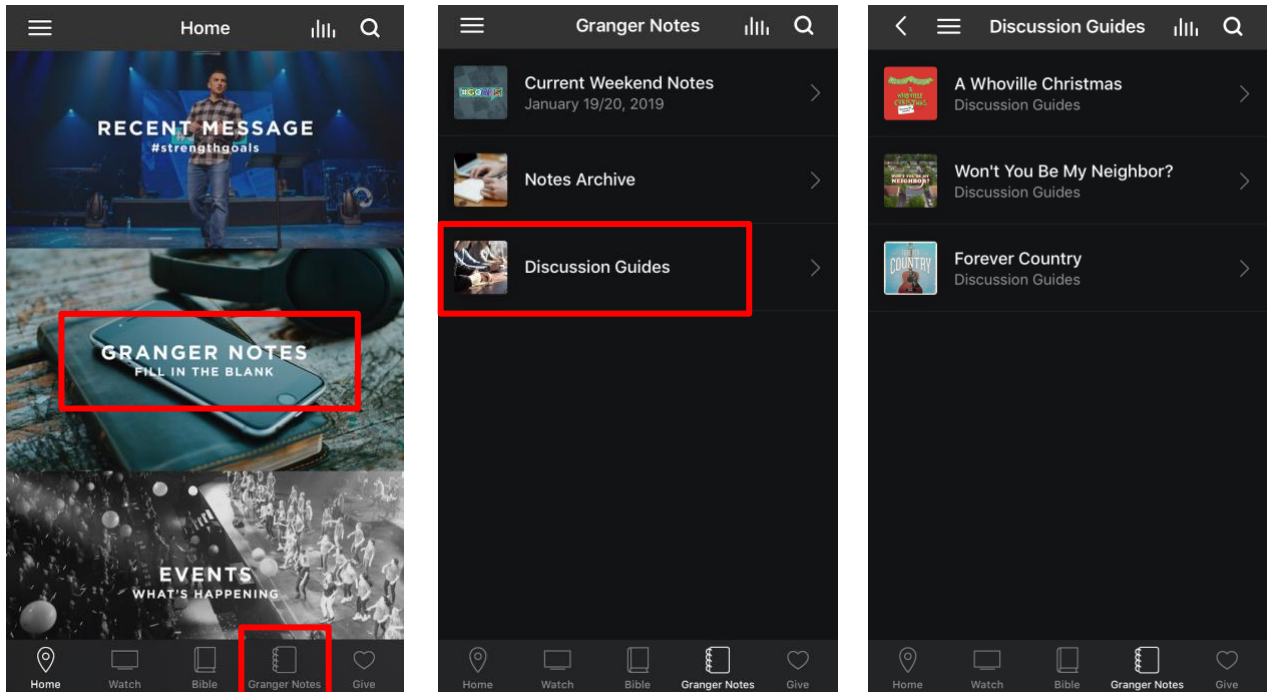
My 10:

Next Steps:

GROUP MEETING FLOW

During Group semesters, you will find Discussions Guides available weekly on the Granger App*. These questions are here to help groups dive a little deeper into the content from the weekend message. Below are sample questions from a Discussion Guide with an estimate of how much time each section may take. Again, this is just a guide. Your group may take more or less time in each area. This example is for groups who meet for 90 minutes.

*If needed, there is an option on the Granger App to email Group Discussion Guides to yourself.



Ice Breaker Questions / Conversation Starter (if needed) 10-15 minutes

Let's Dive In (30 minute)

1. Have a member of the group read John 11:1-44 aloud.
 - a. What stands out to you in the passage?
 - b. How does this story apply to your life today?
2. This weekend, we were challenged to consider how we will live out the rest of our days. Will we live feeling dead inside or embrace this abundant life Jesus offers?
 - a. What spoke to you most during the message this past weekend?
 - b. How does this impact or challenge you as you live your life this week?

Go a Little Deeper (30 minutes)

3. What do you believe are God's intentions toward you? Why?
4. Is there someone in your life for whom you have been praying or encouraging to accept the invitation of life that Jesus offers? Who is that person? Is it someone you could invite this coming weekend?

Next Steps (10 minutes)

Before we meet next week...

- Read John 11 every day this week.
- Ask yourself if you know someone who needs new life. Do everything you can to bring them with you next week as the invitation is made to enter into new life with Jesus.
- Volunteer: Participate in the annual Food Drop—a great way for your group to serve our region together.