

Small Group Agreement

PURPOSE

To provide an environment where group members pursue transformation through healthy relationships and spiritual growth.

GROUP EXPECTATIONS

1. Our group is classified as a: life stage group interest group care group workplace group
2. Our group will meet from _____(mm/yyyy) through _____(mm/yyyy).
3. We'll meet on _____(day of week) and will meet: weekly every other week.
4. We'll start at _____(am/pm) and end at _____(am/pm).
5. The group time will typically consist of _____minutes of social time, _____minutes of study/discussion and _____minutes of prayer.
6. Childcare (if needed) will be _____. (i.e. childcare needs to be found on your own or everyone will chip in for an on-site babysitter, etc.)
7. This group will be an: open group closed group (unless group members agree to add new people)
8. Group members will attend and participate on a regular basis.
9. Group members agree to pray for other group members on a weekly basis.
10. Group members are free to leave the group at any point if they feel that the group is not a good fit for them.
11. Other values we will adhere to:

I commit together with the other members of this group to honor this agreement.

SIGNATURES

Group Leader(s):

Group Members:

Values/Guidelines of a Small Group at Eagle Brook

RELATIONSHIPS

While prayer and discussion of curriculum are key elements, the driving force behind the group is the building of relationships.

AUTHENTICITY

The atmosphere should encourage openness and transparency among members. This is an environment where people should feel free to be themselves.

CONFIDENTIALITY

For authenticity to occur, members must be able to trust that issues discussed within the group will not be shared outside the group. There are also occasions where certain issues require a violation of confidence legally, especially where immediate harm could come to other individuals or even to self. Please use discretion here and communicate to your pastor of groups when appropriate.

STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT

From beginning to end, a group moves and develops through many different stages and at Eagle Brook we want to help your group move through these stages of development in a healthy way. It is essential for groups and leaders to keep a positive outlook when a group needs to: 1) add new members, 2) allow some members to move on to other groups, and 3) encourage some members to become leaders. As an Eagle Brook small group, members agree to keep an eye on each of these stages and help each other to move through all of them.

RESPECT

Group members should never say anything that will embarrass their spouses or other members of the group.

AVAILABILITY

A primary responsibility of the group is to prioritize relationships. This requires a willingness to be available to meet one another's needs.

CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

In order to resolve any conflict that may arise, groups should use Matthew 18:15-20 as the way to approach it, as it reflects the reconciliation that Christ is seeking for us in our own life.

EMAIL COMMUNICATION

Members and leaders must remember that when an all-group email is sent that it can represent an official direction of Eagle Brook. Care must be given when communicating through email as this could be interpreted as the vision, mission and policies of Eagle Brook when it may not be the reality.

FINANCIAL NEEDS

Group members should not solicit others in the group for financial needs – business, personal or otherwise (an exception would be a mission trip).

OTHER AGENDAS

A small group is not a resource for seeking clients, promoting political issues/candidates, or other means of promoting individual interests.

DATING/ROMANCE

The primary focuses of every small group are seeking God and spiritual transformation. Though some groups are co-ed, they are not designed for pursuing dating or romantic relationships.