

GROUP LEADER PLAYBOOK

Everything you need to lead
your group with confidence

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your group with confidence**

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THE BIG PICTURE

OUR MISSION

Therefore 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. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

MATTHEW 28:19-20

CRIEVEWOOD COMMUNITY CHURCH

IS A MOVEMENT OF ORDINARY PEOPLE

**CAPTIVATED BY GRACE
ANCHORED IN TRUTH
UNLEASHED FOR MISSION.**

CONVICTIONS		MISSION		STRATEGY	
Because Jesus...		We help people to be...		Criewood offers...	
SAVES	»»»	CAPTIVATED BY GRACE	»»»	WORSHIP SERVICES	
SANCTIFIES	»»»	ANCHORED IN TRUTH	»»»	SUNDAY SCHOOL AND SMALL GROUPS	
SENDS	»»»	UNLEASHED FOR MISSION	»»»	SERVE TEAMS & MISSIONS	

THE ROLE OF GROUPS

As our church grows, we must also grow smaller at the same time. The larger a church becomes, the easier it is for people to feel like just a number. But God created us for relationship—and it's in meaningful community with others that we begin to experience the full life He intends for us. Groups become spiritual families—places where people don't just know your name, but care about what's happening in your life and walk with you in your journey to become who God made you to be.

GROUPS EXIST TO BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER TO FIND COMMUNITY AND TAKE NEXT STEPS

GROUPS ARE A PLACE FOR...

PROTECTION—When we live in isolation—whether from fear, independence, or busyness—it doesn't just leave us lonely, it leaves us vulnerable. The enemy targets the isolated. But community offers something powerful: protection. Like a wall of faith around your life, a group can stand with you when the waves hit. As Ephesians 4 tells us, community helps protect us from being tossed around by confusion, lies, and the schemes of the enemy.

CORRECTION—Everyone has blind spots. That's why we need people who will speak the truth in love. In healthy community, we don't hide behind spiritual masks. We let people see the real us, and we invite truth and grace to shape us. We grow when we have people who speak truth in love—not when we go it alone.

CONNECTION—Life gets heavy. And sometimes you just can't hold yourself together. That's when a spiritual family—deeply connected and committed—can be the support that holds you up. Groups are where you find that kind of connection. Not just friends, but people who know your story, who show up in the hard moments, and who celebrate your wins.

DOMAINS OF DISCIPLE MAKING

Following Jesus means making disciples the way He did—across four relational spaces.

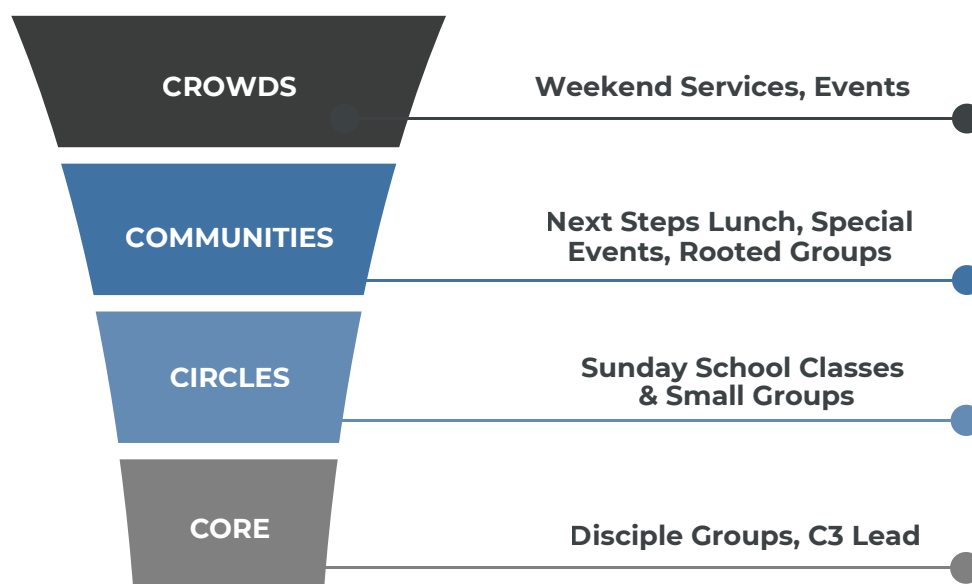
Jesus didn't disciple people in just one way or one setting. His ministry moved fluidly between crowds, collectives, community, and close friendships. If we want to make disciples like Jesus, we must engage in all four spaces of spiritual formation.

CROWDS (Luke 5:1-3) – Jesus regularly taught large crowds in open spaces. This is where people hear the gospel and are in the presence of the body of Christ being the body of Christ.

COMMUNITIES (Luke 10:1-9) – Jesus didn't just teach crowds—He ministered to people in mid-sized groups that we call collectives.

CIRCLES (Mark 3:13-14) – Jesus spent 90% of his earthly ministry investing in 12 guys. They did life together as he taught them to think the way He thought and do the things He did.

CORE (Matthew 17:1-2) – Jesus invested more deeply in Peter, James, and John. This space allows for heart-level formation, deep accountability, and leadership development.



TYPES OF GROUPS

On Campus Groups

Ongoing groups that typically meet on campus. Most of these groups meet on Sunday at 9:30.

Off Campus

Ongoing groups that meet off campus all days of the week. These groups may meet in homes, coffee shops, office buildings, gyms, or wherever else they choose.

Rooted Groups

Rooted is a 6-10 week discipleship journey. It is designed to be someone's first step into community at Crievewood.

Seasonal Groups

Short-term groups that are often based on topics such as marriage, parenting, finances, a theological topic, or a Bible book.

Disciple Groups

Invite-only gender-based groups that are assembled for the purpose of Biblical disciple making.



A man is standing at the front of a room, presenting to a group of people seated at round tables. A large world map is on the left wall, and a presentation screen is in the center. The screen displays the text: "WE ARE A MOVEMENT FOR ORDINARY PEOPLE TO BE CAPTIVATED BY GRACE ANCHORED IN TRUTH & UNLEASHED FOR MISSION".

WE ARE A MOVEMENT FOR ORDINARY PEOPLE TO BE
CAPTIVATED BY GRACE
ANCHORED IN TRUTH &
UNLEASHED FOR MISSION

DNA OF EFFECTIVE GROUPS

EXPRESSIONS OF GROUPS

Here at Crieveewood, groups meet in a variety of times and places– on campus, in homes, in coffee shops, at gyms, and office buildings. Though they each have a distinct flavor, makeup, and style, each group displays 4 expressions found in Acts 2:42-48.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and signs were being performed through the apostles. Now all the believers were together and held all things in common. They sold their possessions and property and distributed the proceeds to all, as any had need. Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple, and broke bread from house to house. They ate their food with joyful and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. Every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

ACTS 2:42-47

THEOLOGICAL

They were devoted to the apostles' teaching. This is what differentiates your group from a supper club or CrossFit crew. Crieveewood groups always find a way to include the Word of God in their gatherings.

FAMILIAL

They did life together– they broke bread, prayed, and enjoyed each other. As spiritual families, Crieveewood groups should be environments where people are loved, honored, built up, cared for, and cheered on.

MISSIONAL

They cared for the needs around them and continually helped people find life in Jesus. Crieveewood groups seek to make a difference inside and outside the walls of our church.

RESTORATIONAL

They were in awe of the work God was doing to transform lives and restore what was broken. Crieveewood groups join the work of Jesus and help each other “bind up the broken pieces” of their lives.



THE MEASURE OF SUCCESS

THE MEETING

What makes for a great group meeting? Depending on your church background, your passion, or your theological convictions, the answers to this could be as many as the number of “Come on somebody’s” we’ve heard from Pastor Kris.

If you grew up in a Southern Baptist background, complete with the LifeWay quarterlies and felt boards, you might say something like: “Group meetings are great if we make it all the way through the curriculum plan for that day.” Maybe you grew up in more of a non-denominational background, and in your church, “community” was the buzzword. If everyone in your group ate well and got to know each other deeper, that was a win. Others may feel successful if you’ve studied rich theological concepts, complete with cultural and textual exegesis, and built the hermeneutical bridge.

If any of those describe you, your understanding of what makes a good Life Group meeting might be incomplete. All of those things are good things. Good, however, can often be the enemy of great. So, what does make for a great group meeting? **Group meetings move from good to great when everyone in the group engages in meaningful gospel conversation.**

Ken Blanchard said, “The person who talks the most learns the most.” In other words, if we want to make disciples and teach them everything Jesus commanded (Matthew 28:19), then we must get them talking.

Group meetings are successful when everyone present is involved in gospel-intentional conversations.

gospel-intentional /'gä-spəl in-'ten-shə-nəl/ **adjective**

Describing dialogue where Jesus is at the center—where truth, grace, and the hope of the gospel are brought to bear on real life. It means we don’t just talk about life; we talk about life through the lens of what Jesus has done, is doing, and promises to do.

3 WAYS TO FACILITATE GOSPEL-INTENTIONAL CONVERSATIONS

01 PRACTICE THE 70/30 RULE

James 5:16 says, “Confess your sins one to another so that you find healing”. In other words, spiritual growth requires conversation. This is why Ken Blanchard was on to something when he said, “the person who talks the most learns the most.” Group leaders should provide about 30% of the conversation, and group members the other 70%.

02 ASK GOOD DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

A basic rule of thumb in consulting is “it matters who says it.” The same is true in discipleship. Instead of teaching a concept, think, “How can I ask a question to get my group members to discover a concept for themselves?”

For example, rather than teaching the concept of God’s sovereignty, ask questions like, “When you’re walking through a storm in life, why is it tough to find peace? How can you help yourself remember that God is in complete control of every situation? What can our group do to help each other during those times?”

03 PREACH THE GOSPEL TO EACH OTHER

Recently, in a group setting, a member shared a struggle they were facing while making a vocational decision. What followed was a powerful example of healthy group dynamics. Without the leader saying a word, other members began speaking up—sharing how God had led them through similar situations, quoting Scripture, and committing to pray for her and her family. That’s what a gospel-centered community looks like. It wasn’t a lecture or a lesson—it was the group actively preaching the gospel to one another.

Some leaders may think, “That would never happen in my group—people just won’t speak up.” In those moments, a simple prompt like, “What do you all think?” can open the door for shared wisdom, support, and spiritual maturity. Leaders don’t need all the answers—they just need to guide the group toward one another and toward Jesus.

THE MEASURE OF SUCCESS

THE SEMESTER

The true measure of success for every semester of groups isn't just attendance or how many deep discussions took place—it's **whether every person in the group took a next step in their faith journey**. Discipleship is directional. As Paul says in Philippians 3:14, "I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." In groups, we walk alongside one another toward that goal, encouraging next steps that lead to spiritual growth.

A next step may look different for each person. As leaders, our role isn't to force fruit, but to cultivate an environment where growth happens and steps forward are encouraged. Hebrews 10:24 reminds us, "Let us consider how to stir one another to love and good works."

Each semester, a healthy group asks, "**Did everyone move?**"

**Group semesters are successful
when everyone in the group has
taken a spiritual next step**

EXAMPLES OF NEXT STEPS

- Crossing the line of faith
- Baptism by immersion
- Attending Next Steps Lunch
- Serving on a ministry team
- Bible reading
- Praying more
- Invite a friend to church
- Giving generously
- Taking on a role within the group
- Participating in a mission trip
- Keeping a prayer journal
- Investing in a friend
- Forgiving someone
- Sharing your faith
- Finding freedom from an addiction
- Beginning a family devotional
- Attending worship more regularly
- Acts of kindness

FOSTERING NEXT STEPS

Everyone in your group will be at a different place spiritually. Your goal isn't to get them to do everything at once—it's to help them identify where they are and take one practical next step toward growth. Leading well means paying attention, being present, and walking with people at their own pace. Sometimes that next step is big; other times, it's small—but every step matters.

The best way to measure if your group members are taking next steps is to [ask](#)! Make it part of your discussion, whether in a group setting or individually.

Here are some questions to guide your conversation:

- How did you get connected to this group?
- What are you most looking forward to in the group?
- How long have you been attending Crieviewood?
- What brought you to Crieviewood?
- Have you ever been part of a life group before?
- What do you feel like God has been doing in your life lately?
- In what areas of your faith are you hoping to grow during the coming months?
- What are you focused on in your life right now?
- Have you been to the Next Steps Lunch? If so, do you remember what your spiritual gifts are?
- Have you ever served on a team?
- Have you ever been on a mission trip?
- How can I pray for you?



One of the best ways to encourage and care for your group members is using the acronym ESPN.

E: [Encouragement](#) - Bring hope to any situation they may be facing.

S: [Scripture](#) - Offer them a tangible truth they can read and study in God's Word.

P: [Prayer](#) - Pray over their needs or concerns.

N: [Next Steps](#) - Offer a practical next step for them to take.



THE ROLE OF GROUP LEADERS

WHAT LEADERS DO

Group Leaders create environments where people can grow in their relationship with Jesus and others. They facilitate weekly gatherings, foster authentic community, and help group members take next steps in their faith. Group Leaders aren't expected to have all the answers—they simply model gospel-centered living, guide discussion, pray for their group, and care for the people they lead.

Key Responsibilities:

- Facilitate weekly group discussions
- Pray regularly for group members
- Foster a welcoming and safe environment
- Encourage spiritual growth and next steps
- Communicate with your coach regularly
- Communicate with groups staff as needed
- Share important information with your group
- Take attendance at each meeting

Group Leaders are culture carriers—representing the heart, values, and mission of our church within the life of their group.

Time Commitment:

Approximately 3 hours per week (Days vary based on your meeting time)

MONDAY Call 2 group members who missed. 15 mins	TUESDAY Pray for member who is sick & send them a text. 5 mins	WEDNESDAY Pray for a member considering baptism. 5 mins	THURSDAY Invite a prospect from Starting Point to join you Sunday. 5 mins
FRIDAY Lunch with a group member 1 hour	SATURDAY Prep and pray for your meeting. 30 mins	SUNDAY Group Meeting 1 hour	

WHAT GREAT LEADERS DO

PRAY BY NAME

Strong group dynamics begin with consistent prayer. Great leaders take a few minutes each day to pray by name for their group members and occasionally follow up with a short text or call to let them know they're seen, known, and prayed for.

CONNECT BETWEEN MEETINGS

The strongest groups don't just meet weekly—they stay connected. Whether it's through a text, call, or coffee, intentional follow-up creates space for the best ministry to happen "between the meetings."

GO FIRST

Leaders set the tone. When a leader models courageous vulnerability by being honest about their own journey, it gives others permission to do the same. Healthy groups are built on authenticity.

SHARE THE LOAD

Don't carry the group alone. Invite members to contribute—whether it's organizing snacks, handling prayer requests, or planning a social night. Empowering others helps build ownership and multiplies ministry.

LAUGH LOUD, HARD, AND OFTEN

Joy is contagious and Christ-honoring. Proverbs 17:22 says laughter is good medicine. A light-hearted, joy-filled group builds trust and draws people in.

PREPARE

Whatever your group's purpose—Bible study, outreach, prayer—come prepared. Respect people's time by starting and ending on time. Groups that thrive over time are intentional and well-led.

ENGAGE BEYOND THE GROUP

Encourage group members to attend church events and worship gatherings together. Leaders help people take next steps, and one of the best steps is a deeper connection to the life of the church.

RALLY IN CRISIS MOMENTS

When someone in your group faces a crisis, lean in with wisdom and care. Small acts of support—like meals, prayer, or simply being present—can make a lasting impact. God has placed you in this group on purpose, for moments just like these.

SHARING THE LOAD

You don't have to carry the group alone. In fact, the most effective groups are those that share the load of leadership. Empowering others helps build ownership and multiplies ministry.

A great way to begin the process of sharing the load is to set aside one group meeting—or even a casual dinner—to talk through group roles and invite others to get involved. This doesn't have to be formal or overwhelming. Simply explain that the goal is to make space for everyone to contribute and help the group thrive. Walk through a few key roles and ask who might enjoy serving in one of those areas. You'll be surprised how many people are willing to help when they know there's a need and they're invited to be part of the mission. Taking this simple step early in the semester can transform your group from a gathering into a team.

GROUP ROLES

Leader – Sets the spiritual tone, facilitates group discussion, and shepherds the group toward gospel-centered growth and connection.

Apprentice Leader – Learns through observation and shared responsibility with the goal of co-leading or launching a future group.

Social Lead – Plans social gatherings and helps create a warm, relational environment where people feel known and valued.

Care Lead – Coordinates care within the group (meals, prayer support, crisis response) and ensures group members are cared for.

Mission Lead – Helps the group serve together by organizing outreach or community impact opportunities.

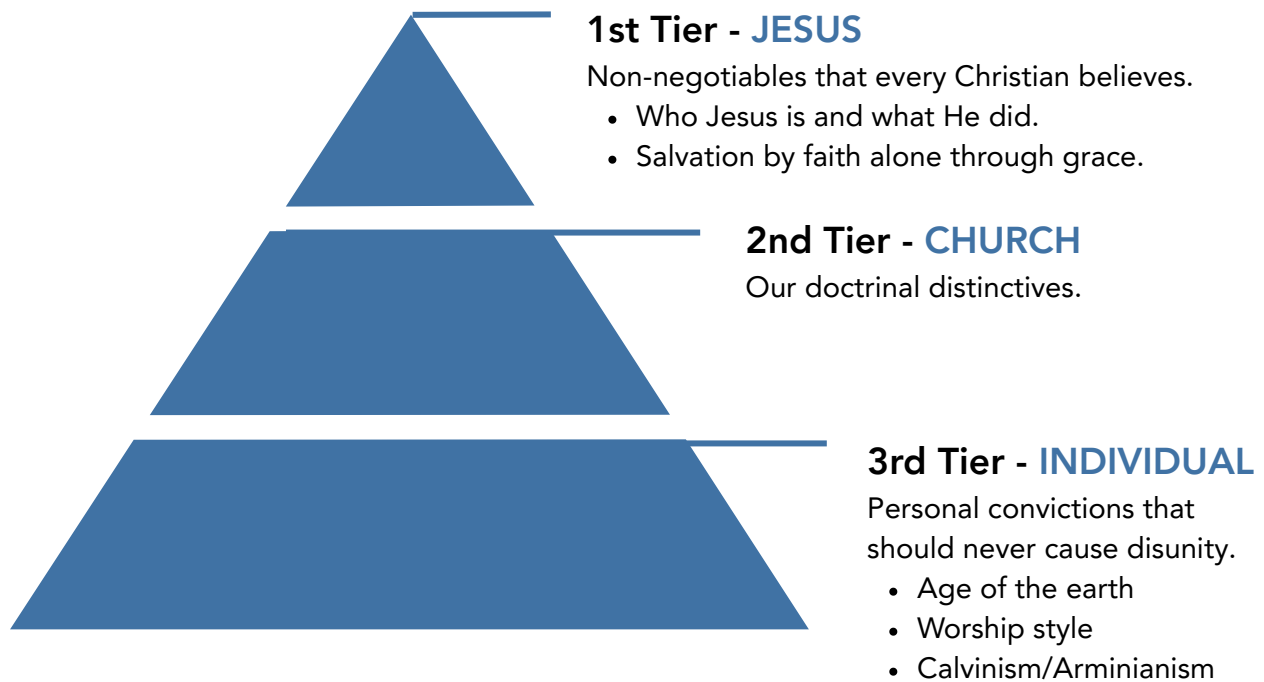
Attendance Lead – Tracks weekly attendance and follows up with group members who miss consistently.

Prayer Lead – Guides the group in prayer each week, keeps track of prayer requests, and encourages ongoing prayer support between meetings.

Other Roles As Needed – Optional roles that fit your group's specific rhythm, such as hospitality, communication, childcare coordination, or curriculum setup.

MAINTAIN DOCTRINAL UNITY

As a group leader, one of your key responsibilities is to protect the unity of the group by staying aligned with Crieviewood's core beliefs. You don't have to have all the answers, but you do need to help keep discussions from drifting into confusion or division. Below is a framework for how to do that. If a theological question comes up that's tough to answer, pause the conversation for the moment and follow up with your coach or a pastor for clarity.



2nd TIER DOCTRINAL DISTINCTIVES

This isn't a full list but it highlights a few areas we're most often asked about.

THE BIBLE: Inspired, Infallible, Authoritative, Sufficient, Profitable, Perspicuous

THE FAMILY: Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. God designed the family to be the basic institution to bring about human flourishing.

BELIEVER'S BAPTISM: Baptism is by immersion as an outward symbol of an inward commitment to make Jesus Lord of your life.

CHARISMATIC WITH A SEATBELT: We believe in the gifts and power of the Holy Spirit expressed in an orderly, biblical way that builds up the church and keeps the focus on Jesus.





GETTING PRACTICAL

GATHERING YOUR GROUP

Building a strong, thriving group doesn't happen by accident. It takes intentionality and a bit of hustle. We need "hunter-gatherers" — leaders who either already know people and can quickly gather them, or who are willing to be proactive to hunt for new people to invite. Research shows that 46% of people start attending a group because someone personally invited them. There are plenty of opportunities around you every week. You just have to seize them. Here are some practical steps to get you started.

- **ATTEND A NEXT STEPS LUNCH**— This is a goldmine for connecting with people who are ready to get plugged in. Build relationships there and invite them to join your group.
- **CONNECT ON SUNDAYS**— Meet people in the Welcome Center or around you in service. Look for newcomers or regular attendees while checking your kids in. A simple, friendly invitation can go a long way.
- **LEVERAGE YOUR SPHERE**— Don't underestimate those already around you — your neighborhood, coworkers, or friends are often looking for community too.
- **SOCIAL MEDIA**— Post on your community Facebook group: Local groups on social media are a great way to reach people nearby who want to get connected.
- **YOUR ONE**— Even as you're building your group from the ground up, invite those first few to join the mission. Encourage them to help you find just one more person who needs community. Groups grow strongest when everyone is invested in the vision from the beginning.
- **PRAY**— This sounds cliché, but it's not. Pray for open doors. Spiritual preparation is just as important as practical efforts, if not more. Ask God to bring the right people to your group.

Rest assured, you don't have to do this on your own. We are committed to supporting you by sending people your way, providing resources, and walking alongside you in this journey. Being a hunter-gatherer is about loving people enough to lead them into community—and we're here to help you make that happen.



PRO TIP

The ideal group size varies depending on where you meet, but a good rule of thumb is to aim for 20 people. On average, about 12 will attend each week.

GOOD GROUP DYNAMICS

Groups at Crieveewood aren't built around lectures or deep theological debates—they're built around people. Your goal as a leader is to create a space where everyone feels seen, heard, and safe to grow spiritually. That starts with healthy, Spirit-led conversation.

KEEP IT RELEVANT TO EVERYONE

Your group may include people from all stages of faith—new believers, curious seekers, and mature Christians. Avoid insider language or assuming everyone is familiar with biblical concepts. Make sure every voice and perspective is welcomed. Be intentional about making space for those who are just beginning their spiritual journey.

HANDLE DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS WITH GRACE AND CLARITY

As a group leader, you help shape the culture of your group—and a healthy culture is marked by grace, clarity, and honor. Romans 12:10 says to “outdo one another in showing honor.” That's the only place in Scripture we're told to compete—and it's all about how we treat others.

Sometimes, you'll need to step in to protect that culture. If a conversation turns negative or divisive—especially toward a group member, a pastor, or the church—lovingly guide it back to unity. You're not being harsh; you're being a shepherd. When that happens, lead with love and clarity.

- **When someone talks too much:** Say, “That's a great point—let's hear from someone who hasn't shared yet.”
- **When someone gets on a soapbox:** Redirect with, “That's a complex issue with lots of perspectives, but let's stay focused on today's topic.”
- **When someone criticizes the church or leadership:** Gently say, “If there's a concern, the best next step is to speak directly with a pastor. Let's keep this space focused on building each other up.”

If needed, follow up with that person outside the group. And remember—you're not in this alone. If something feels beyond what you can navigate, your Groups Team is here to support you.

GOOD GROUP DYNAMICS

LOVE THOSE WHO NEED EXTRA GRACE

Every group has one eventually—someone who drains the energy of the room, dominates discussions, shares too much too often, or struggles with self-awareness. We often call them EGRs: Extra Grace Required. And while they can be challenging, they're also an opportunity to lead with patience, prayer, and wisdom.

Here's how to love and lead them well:

- **Redirect gently and often:** Help them stay on topic and within time. A kind but clear redirect like, "Thanks for sharing that—let's circle back to the question we're discussing," can help guide the group.
- **Connect outside the group:** Often, EGRs are looking for deeper connection. A one-on-one coffee or check-in can help them feel seen without monopolizing group time.
- **Affirm their value without enabling disruption:** Make sure they know they're welcome and cared for, but also help them grow by lovingly setting boundaries.
- **Pray for wisdom and discernment:** Ask the Holy Spirit to help you lead with grace and courage. Some EGRs soften and grow with time and care.

If the person's behavior becomes disruptive to the point that it's affecting the health of the group, don't carry that weight alone. Reach out to your Discipleship Team—we'll help you walk through it with wisdom and support.

RESPECT BOUNDARIES

At Crieewood, we lead with integrity and protect one another with clear relational boundaries. Men should care for and disciple men; women should care for and disciple women. If you are a male leader and a young woman in your group needs ministry or care, don't handle it yourself—involve your wife or another trusted female. Boundaries build trust.



THE IDEAL MEETING FLOW

60 MINUTE GROUP MEETING

Welcome & Catch Up – 10 minutes

- Greet each other, light conversation, quick check-ins
- Share snacks or coffee

Prayer & Setup – 5 minutes

- Brief prayer to open the meeting
- Share announcements from the church
- Frame the conversation or topic with an ice-breaker

Group Discussion – 30 minutes

- Remember the goal is to get everyone involved in the conversation
- Always guide the conversation toward a practical next step.

Prayer Requests & Prayer Time – 10 minutes

- Ask for any prayer needs
- Pray as a group or in pairs
- Keep it natural and simple—no pressure to pray aloud

Wrap-Up & Next Steps – 5 minutes

- Remind the group about next week's meeting or group plans
- Encourage everyone to reach out to someone during the week
- Dismiss with gratitude and vision: "Let's live on mission this week."



PRO TIP

Adjust your meeting flow based on your group's size, setting, and needs. Smaller groups may spend more time sharing and praying, while larger groups might focus more on discussion and breakout conversations. Some do a full meal. Others involve the kids. It's up to you. Be flexible with timing and interaction styles to create a comfortable, welcoming space for everyone.

CHOOSING CURRICULUM

LIFE TOGETHER

In Life Together, we'll unpack the DNA that makes groups life-giving: biblical truth, authentic relationships, prayer, care, and mission. This isn't about attending a meeting, it's about belonging to a movement. When we live out the heartbeat of community, we experience the kind of life Jesus designed us for— together.

ROOTED

Rooted is a 10-week small group experience that helps people grow in their faith through seven key rhythms of discipleship. It's designed to move people from simply knowing about God to truly experiencing Him—in community.

LIFEWAY

Explore the Bible helps your group engage deeply with Scripture by walking verse-by-verse through entire books of the Bible.

Bible Studies for Life connects God's Word to real-life topics, helping your group apply biblical truth to everyday situations.

The Gospel Project takes your group on a Christ-centered, chronological journey through the Bible, showing how all Scripture points to Jesus.

From time to time, groups may want to explore a different curriculum or study. If it's not one of the recommended options listed above, it will need approval from our Discipleship Team.

**WE'RE HAPPY TO HELP GUIDE YOU TOWARD CONTENT THAT FITS
YOUR GROUP'S NEEDS AND ALIGNS WITH OUR CHURCH'S VALUES.**

MOBILIZING YOUR GROUP

We believe one of the most important steps you can take to grow in your faith is finding a meaningful place to serve. We are all called to use our gifts to serve others, to make a difference, and glorify God. Something powerful happens when serving together as a group. Bonds are solidified, giftings are discovered, and our individual efforts are compounded. We accomplish more together and receive abundant blessings as we bless others through our time and talents.

There is no shortage of opportunities to serve across the streets, states, and seas, but it all starts at home. Here are a few ways that your group can make a difference.

ON CAMPUS

- **Join a Serve Team:** From the parking lot to the prayer room, the welcome tent to the worship center, or the connections team to kids ministry, there is a place for everyone. It takes dozens of servant leaders to effectively show love and care to everyone who comes through our doors each week.

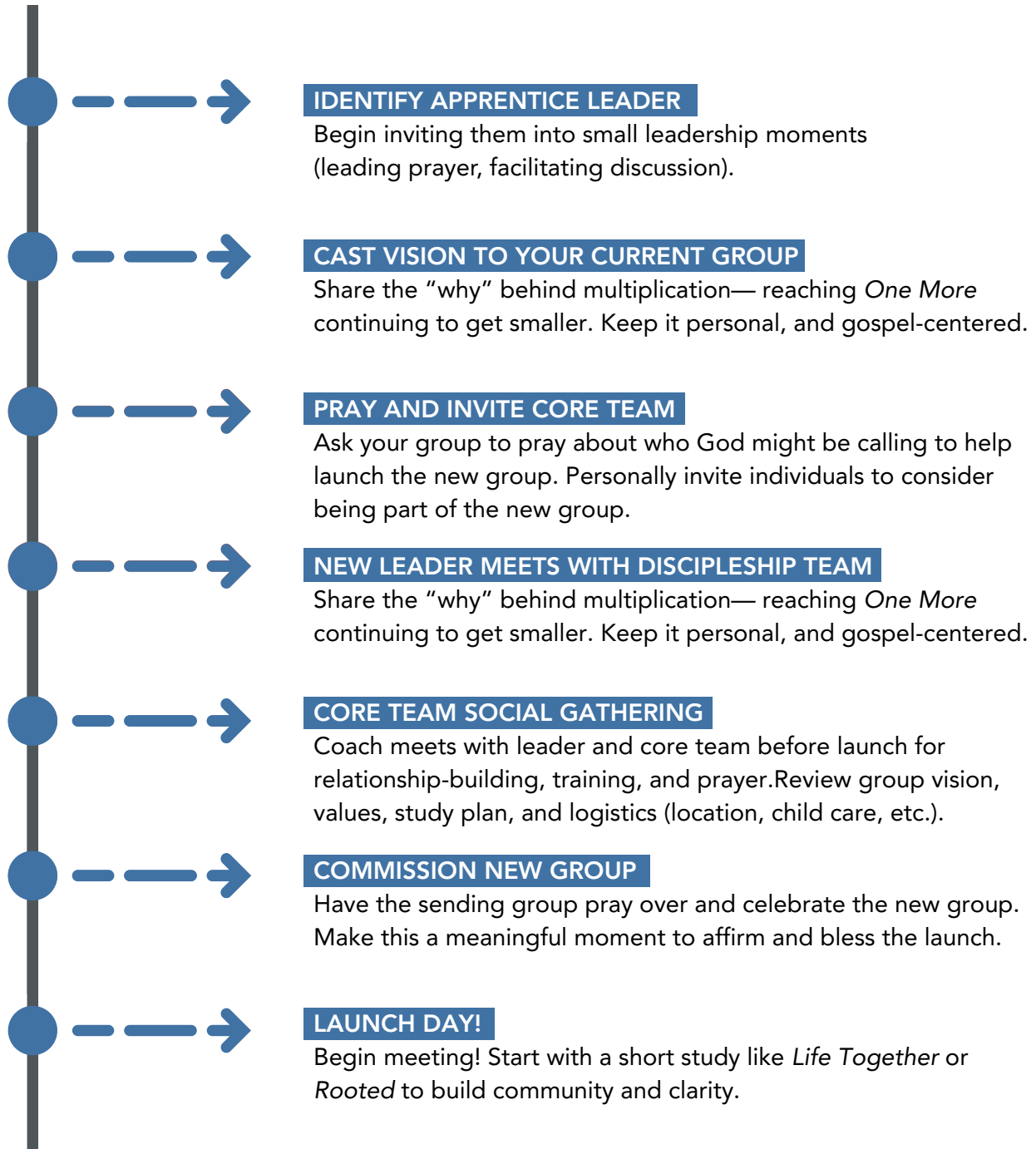
LOCALLY

- **Serving our Neighbors:** What would our neighborhoods look like if we treated them like the mission fields that they are? Something as simple as hosting block parties, having your neighbors over for coffee, or inviting them to join us on a Sunday morning can make a real impact in our community. Local missions has ongoing opportunities to deliver lunch to local businesses and gifts to our newest neighbors, as well as special projects and disaster relief.
- **Serving with our Partners:** Crieveewood has partnered with organizations all over the world. The ones here in our own backyard have a near-constant need for support, as they address serious issues for the most vulnerable in our communities.
- **Spreading Joy:** Few things spread as quickly as joy. Small things done with great love is like setting off little confetti bombs all over the place! A random act of kindness is a simple, effective, and fun way to share the love of Jesus with people around you. How can your group be creative and hit the streets with your own little army of joy?

There is certainly no shortage of ways that your group can serve our church and our community. The important piece is to **take action** and to find a **regular rhythm**. A healthy group should plan to **serve together at least once a semester**.

MULTIPLYING YOUR GROUP

Multiplying a group isn't something to rush—it's an intentional process designed to build strong leaders and healthy new communities. The process typically takes 4–5 months and involves prayer, planning, training, and relational support. Taking the time to do it well sets the new group up for long-term success.



NOTES

life is better in circles.

You weren't meant to do life alone—and neither were the people you're leading. As a Group Leader, you're creating a space where people can be seen, known, and transformed through the love of Jesus and the power of biblical community.

This handbook is your guide to leading with confidence and purpose. Inside, you'll find practical tools, spiritual encouragement, and a clear vision of what it means to shepherd a group well. Whether you're launching your very first group or growing a healthy one, this resource will walk with you every step of the way.

You're not just leading a group. You're helping change lives—one group at a time.



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