

Developing a Group Covenant



What is a covenant and why do we need one?

A covenant is an agreement between group members that defines the direction of the group and the commitment to meet group goals.

Benefits of a Covenant

- responsibilities of group members is stated
- vision for group is clear
- conflict resolution is expected and planned

“A covenant is a road map to where we are going”

We are encouraging new groups to develop a covenant that will serve as a guide for their group life.

Questions that can help your group form a covenant:

- How do we want this group to impact our lives?
- What commitments will it take from each of us to make that impact?

Essential elements to include in a covenant:

Confidentiality: What is said in the group stays in the group unless it is determined that a person is in danger of hurting themselves.

Respect Others: We don't analyze or “fix” each other. We are to support, encourage, and challenge each other towards Christ-likeness.

Limit Sharing: We will not dominate group discussion, everyone needs to share.

Conflict Resolution: Whenever relationships are involved, there will be conflict. We will handle the conflict biblically according to the guidelines of Matthew 18.

Be prepared: We will make a commitment to show up and end on time, and come prepared to fully participate.

Relationships and Service: We commit to building community and impacting our world. These activities are as important as studies.

“If you aim for nothing, you'll be sure to hit it”