

Ground rules for small group members:

The purpose of the small group is to build disciples, which begins by growing in knowledge and understanding of the Bible. As we grow in faith, our life begins to imitate Jesus. Besides growing in faith and our faith walk, we also grow in relationship with other Christ followers. May your time with this group be a blessed time for all of you.

- Plan to attend every meeting. Make this a priority. Group members depend on each other for a good discussion. We realize though that sometimes conflicts can't be avoided. If that happens, please contact your facilitator beforehand.

- Meetings will start promptly at the scheduled time and end on time. Each week you will have a Chapter from the Gospel of Luke to read before small group meets. Some chapters are longer than others, so the facilitator may choose to only discuss a portion or one section of the discussion questions in order to stay on time. Make your desires known if there are questions you want to be sure to have discussed.

- In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says, "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets." (Matt. 7:12) A good ground rule for all groups is the Golden Rule. Respect the opinions of others. You do not have to agree with their opinion but everyone is entitled to their own opinion.

-Your group discussion is confidential. What is said in the group is kept in the group. Small groups need to be trustworthy. This is also part of the Golden Rule.

- Gossip is not welcome. Lift up others, and speak well of them.

- Each person in the small group is in the process of deepening their walk of faith. Everyone is at a different place. There are many grey areas when talking about faith and we encourage you to feel comfortable with that. We call on the Spirit to guide us in our group time.

- Some people are more extraverted, and some are more introverted. Everyone in the group is accepted and has valuable information to share. Feel free to contribute as you feel comfortable, however we want to avoid having anyone carrying a majority of the conversation. Sometimes the facilitator may have to ask for input from others in the group. It is everyone's job to be involved.

Please pray for the members of your group each day.