

Life Group Agreement

Tenth Church Vision

We are a place where people of all different backgrounds can discover Christ, a community of spiritual transformation that seeks justice for all.

Life Group Vision

A life group is a community of people committed to one another for the sake of discovering Jesus and becoming like him. It's a place where we cultivate healthy relationships and spiritual growth.

Purpose of Life Group

To grow spiritually in community.

General Expectations for Life Groups:

1. Respect Others:

- a.** Aim to be on time for group meetings
- b.** Prioritize participation: Commit to regular attendance at life group and at Sunday services (e.g. at least 50% of the time).
- c.** Communicate: When you are unable to attend life group, let your leader know. If you are upset about something that happened in the group, talk about it respectfully.
- d.** Share with "I" statements: In group discussions, speak for yourself (e.g. "I struggle to forgive" rather than "We all struggle to forgive"). We are only experts on ourselves.
- e.** Turn to wonder: If you feel judgmental or defensive when someone else is sharing, ask yourself: I wonder what brought them to this belief; I wonder what they're feeling right now? I wonder what my reaction teaches me about myself?
- f.** Don't give unsolicited advice: Respect people's journeys and trust the Holy Spirit inside of them to lead them into all truth. Resist the temptation to offer quick advice as people share in the group.

2. Observe Confidentiality:

Anything shared with the group should not be repeated outside of the group (except your own story), in order to create a safe environment for everyone in the group. However, information about causing harm to self or others must be reported.

3. Seek Reconciliation:

Even if all the guidelines are followed, we could still inadvertently offend or hurt each other. Check assumptions, clarify expectations, and debrief conflicts. When hurt, be honest yet gentle. Endeavor to extend grace and forgiveness, and to give the other person the benefit of the doubt. If you hurt someone, listen, empathize, humbly take responsibility, and apologize. “If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone” (Rom. 12:18).

How Can I Help our Group Thrive?

1. Show Up

Involvement leads to impact and helps foster trust. Trust is a necessary element for groups to grow closer together, and to grow closer together with God.

2. Join In

Seek to get to know your group members and let them get to know you. Share with as much depth as you feel comfortable

3. Be Real

Transformation happens when we let go of layers of false-self and allow God and others to see us as we truly are. Be yourself. Be honest. You will find that as you offer yourself more deeply, your relationships with God and others will grow.

3. Care

Pray for one another and for your group as a whole, both in your group time and in your private prayers. If someone in your group is going through a hard time, reach out by phone, email, text, or a written note. You may offer specific practical help (e.g. “Can I bring you a meal?” “Can I pick up groceries for you?” “Can I start a Meal Train for you?”)