

LIFE GROUP LEADER

diverse form / unified function

PURPOSE

The mission for each Life Group is to be a safe and welcoming environment where people can develop meaningful friendships with each other; the primary goal is for Life Groups to be the “connect” engines of Grace Community Church. The other four Grace Identities (Grow, Reach, Adore, and Engage) will flow out of the Life Group’s preeminent purpose: **the family of God living as the family of God.**

ONE SENTENCE JOB DESCRIPTION

Life Group leaders cultivate a welcoming and safe environment where people can grow in their relationships with others and with Jesus.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. **Shepherding:** Care for the people in your group. A safe and welcoming environment is the #1 sought-after characteristic in a Life Group among both people who attend groups and people who don’t attend groups – “he/she makes people feel comfortable and welcome in the group”.
Key Words: transparency, safety, grace, hospitality, understanding, and care.
2. **Administering:** Communicate clearly to the people in your group. Take attendance on Fellowship1 (contact: NancyShippy@GraceAZ.com). Coordinate/delegate responsibilities (food, cleaning, etc.).
Key Words – clarity, teamwork, and tasks.
3. **Facilitating:** Lead your people through and toward something. This can be video content from Right Now Media, an approved Bible Study, or simply times of prayer.
Key Words – questions, reproducibility, diagnosis, and growth.
4. **Enlisting:** Identify future leaders within the group, and challenge them to use their gifts. Leaders, over time, multiply themselves into their followers by saying, “what I am doing you can also do.” We don’t split groups; we send leaders.
Key Words – growth, multiplication, empowering, and challenging.
5. **Championing:** Own the Vision of the Grace Identities (Grow, Reach, Adore, Connect, and Engage) and continually put them in front of your group as a litmus test for health.
Key Words – big picture, vision, member, advocate, and movement.

WHAT LEADING A LIFE GROUP IS NOT:

- Your opportunity to prove yourself and have authority over people.
- Your opportunity to push your theological agenda.
- Your opportunity to create an exclusive clique.
- You having to know everything about the bible, theology, or answers to hard questions.
- You having to be “in charge” over everything in the group.

QUALIFICATIONS *(see Appendix)*

1. Committed to Jesus, the faith He passed onto His apostles, and Grace Community Church.
2. Qualified a humble “overseer” according to 1 Timothy 3:1-7.

Tony Curtisi
Pastor of Care and Connection
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GROUP PRAGMATICS

what does it look like?

CONTENT

- Option 1: Discuss and apply Sunday's sermon.
- Option 2: Right Now Media studies:
 - "Basic: Who is God?" & "Basic: We are the Church" – Francis Chan
 - "For The Life of the World" – Action Media (Vocation/Work)
 - "Hearing God" – Dallas Willard and John Ortberg (Prayer)
 - "Simplify" – Bill Hybels (Life Wisdom)
- Option 3: Other approved study.

FOOD

- Method 1: Potluck w/ Signups
- Method 2: Rotate Responsibility
- Method 3: Only Dessert/Coffee
- Method 4: BYOF
- Method 5: Other

PRAYER

- Strategy 1: Gather Requests at the end
- Strategy 2: Assign a "prayer lead"
- Strategy 3: Break into groups of 2-3 to pray at the end
- Strategy 4: Mix it up

LEADERSHIP TEAM & KEY RELATIONSHIPS

- **COACH:** Connect with your coach once per month. Update them about how your content is working, how relationships are building, and how you are feeling in general about the group.
- **APPRENTICE/Co-Leader:** Keep them in the loop as often as possible. Brainstorm with them, pray with them, and cast vision about the "not if, but when" they will be able to take on more leadership. Make sure they know the "why" behind *everything* you do!

LEADER COVENANT

I commit to...

- frequently pray for the members of my group.
- maintain an intimate, growing relationship with Jesus Christ.
- taking weeks off as my health and rest require and, in doing so, model the biblical principle of Sabbath to my group.
- embody and reflect the vision and values of Grace Community Church.
- being a “first responder” for pastoral care to my group when it’s members are in great need.
- going to my LG Coach first and Pastor Seth second whenever issues arise that are beyond my ability and/or experience or when there are acute conditions within the group requiring pastoral care or counseling.
- being an example of **growing, reaching, adoring, connecting, and engaging** outside of my group.
- consistently attending one of Grace’s Sunday worship gatherings.
- being loyal to and supportive of Grace’s leadership and to encourage my group to pray for them.
- not teaching or practicing things that are contrary to the teachings of Grace Community Church.
- sharing openly with the group in order to build up the group’s closeness and intimacy and model my dependence on the Grace of our God.
- identifying and recruiting an apprentice Life Group leader and will give them opportunities to lead.
- striving to build authentic relationships with those in my group by showing care, providing encouragement, and praying for their needs.
- handling conflict in the group with love and patience.
- doing my best to keep the spirit of the group positive by squelching gossip, speaking truth, and avoiding a negative critical spirit.
- attending leader trainings as often as they are offered as my schedule allows.

I will commit to serve as a Grace Community Church Life Group Leader for one year unless I have a major life change where I am unable to serve.

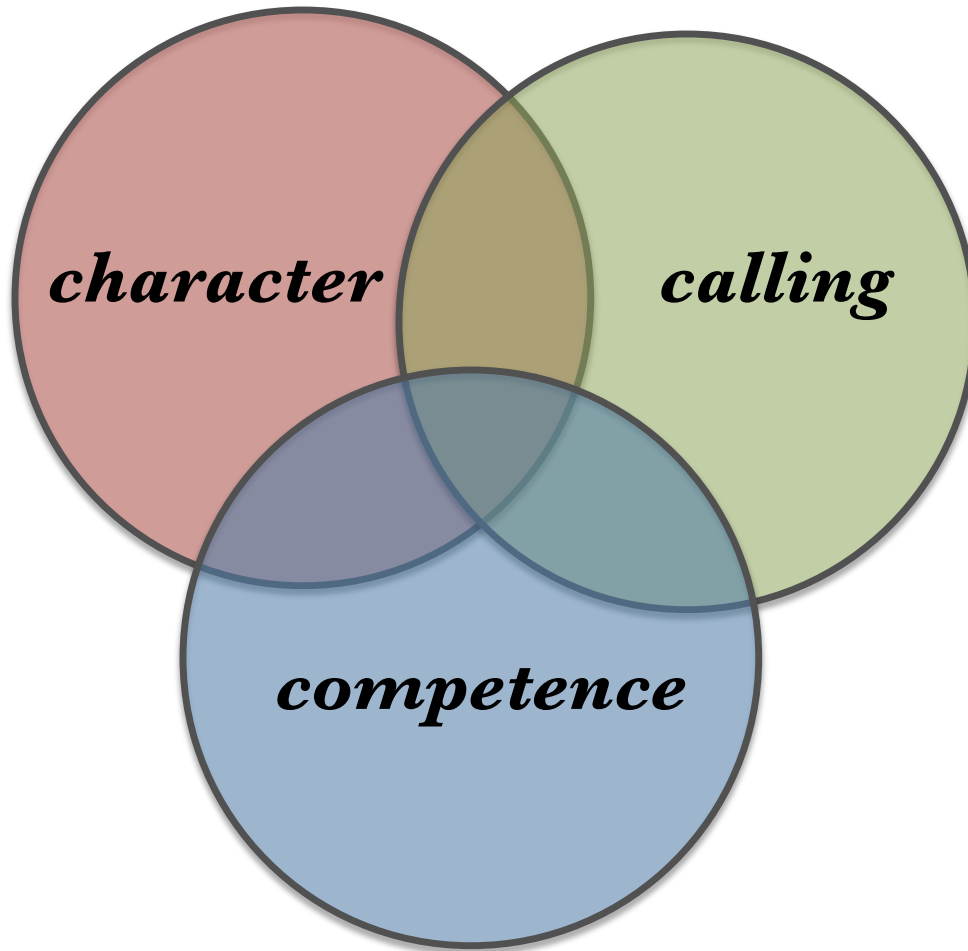
I covenant together with the leadership of Grace Community Church Church to honor this agreement.

Life Group Leader: _____
(sign) (print)

(date)

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APPENDIX: QUALIFIED?



DIAGNOSTIC QUESTIONS:

- **CHARACTER**

- *Do people feel “safe” because of their presence?*
- *Do they have an awareness of their present sinfulness?*
- *Do they have a humble posture towards other people?*
-

- **CALLING**

- *Does their season of life enable the commitment level needed?*
- *Has the Holy Spirit placed a burden on their heart to lead?*
- *Does their vision overlap with Grace’s vision?*
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- **COMPETENCE**

- *Are they clear communicators?*
- *Do they know how to be welcoming and hospitable?*
- *Are they capable of facilitating a discussion?*
-

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