

GGF Orientation Guide

I. Mission & Strategy

- A. Our Mission: Our mission is to help people take their next step toward Christ.
- B. Three Relationships: By creating environments where people are encouraged and equipped to:
 - 1. Pursue intimacy with God
 - 2. Develop community with insiders
 - 3. Serving those who are not yet apart of the community
- C. Three Environments (G³)
 - 1. Gather
 - 2. Grow
 - 3. Go
- D. Simple Purpose for Growth Groups (GG)
 - 1. They are not primarily or exclusively...
 - Social Clubs
 - Meditation Groups
 - Support Groups
 - Teaching environments
 - 2. They are...
 - Places for people to connect and “do life” together.
 - They are safe, comfortable, stress-free places where individuals have the opportunity to meet new people, make new friends, learn something new and grow spiritually within a social context.

II. Structure

- A. The structure shift – from arbitrary to intentional:
 - 1. They last 11 weeks at a time. This:
 - Allows people breaks
 - Is more appealing to those who fear commitment
 - 2. They are based around people’s common interests. This:
 - Provides the variety needed to help more people experience group life
 - 3. They serve and play together. This:
 - Helps people think outside of themselves and their group time.
 - 4. They have 12-15 people instead of 6-8. This:
 - Caused us to reconsider the name (which are now Growth Groups)
 - Is optimal for creating friends, trusting intimacy will follow
 - Avoids the awkwardness of too few people showing up
 - 5. There is a simple sign-up in services. This:
 - Maximizes the possibility of people signing up

III. Roles & Responsibilities & Training

- A. The Coach (GGC)
 - 1. Oversees 5 group facilitators by:
 - Meeting with them once per month (Group Huddle)
 - 2. Helps form new groups
- B. The Growth Group Facilitator (GGF)
 - 1. Facilitates discussion and care for 12-15 people

2. Strives to create an environment of growth in the group
- C. Leader Development Opportunities
1. Semester leadership training events
 2. Facilitator resources via email
 3. Coach Huddles

IV. Important Dates

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| A. Tuesday, August 17 | All information for groups is given to CMC Admin (time, location, etc) |
| B. Sunday, August 22 | Membership Class |
| C. Sunday, September 5 | Signups for GG begin |
| D. Sunday, September 19 | Mandatory GGF training |
| E. Sunday, October 3 | GG start meeting |
| F. Saturday, November 20 | All church SERVE opportunity |
| G. Monday, December 20 | All GGs end by this date |