



Growth Groups Guidance

Drafted by the Elder Team — June 2022

New Life Mission and Vision

Mission Statement — We exist to glorify God by enjoying and loving Him, loving others and leading people to become devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Vision Statement — God has made us to be a Welcoming, Transforming, and Sending church that makes disciples of Jesus Christ by helping people Get Connected, Get Grounded, Get Healthy, Get Strong, and Get Going.

Philosophy of Growth Groups

Growth Groups will be one of the central ways we pursue adult discipleship alongside Sunday worship services, training courses, and Emmaus partnerships.

Vision

- Growth Groups are an extension of our unique history in the global "Free Church" movement. In the 1700s, faithful believers who were frustrated with the lack of Bible teaching and with the spiritual deadness of the state churches of Europe began meeting in homes to simply read the Bible, pray, and grow in discipleship.
- Our Growth Groups will embody this same emphasis. We will keep God's Word central and pursue a vibrant discipleship by applying the gospel to everyday life.

Structure

- All Growth Groups should follow the "core four" practices from Acts 2:42
 - Study the Bible together ("They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching")
 - Spend quality time together ("and to fellowship")
 - Eat together ("to the breaking of bread")
 - Pray together ("and to prayer.")
- We will utilize the "Knowing the Bible" series of Bible studies. Groups must be focused on Bible study and application to everyday life.

Leadership

- Growth Groups will have two leadership roles:
 - Co-Leaders — married couples or individuals who are members of New Life.
 - Host — a family or individual who is willing to host the group in their home.

Schedule

- We will operate on a 12-week cycle with 3 cycles per year (Sept-Nov, Jan-Mar, May-July)
- Groups will be open for newcomers at the beginning of each 12-week cycle.