

GROWTH GROUP LEADER

Growth Groups are communities where God's people grow together as disciples of Jesus through his Word, in prayerful community



GOAL

The Growth Group Leader works towards achieving the goal of Growth Group

The goal is to see every member of our growth group **grow**: in knowing God through his Word; loving and obeying Jesus as Lord; and building one another up so that together we grow to maturity in Christ.

CORE VALUES/CONVICTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS

The Growth Group leader ensures groups are shaped around God's means for our growth - Bible, Prayer, and Community.

BIBLE



God grows his people through his Word

Scripture is central to Christian growth.

- *Ephesians 4:11-16*
- *2 Timothy 3:16-17*

PRAYER



God grows his people through prayerful dependence

Prayer is a vital response to God's Word and an expression of our dependence on him.

COMMUNITY



God grows his people within Christian community

God uses his people to help one another grow, speak the truth in love, bear burdens, show care, and actively serve one another.

Every area of church life contributes to a person's growth into full maturity. Growth Groups help to fuel this by getting people into God's Word prayerfully together

TASKS A growth group leader understands the essential tasks and how to do them well.

* EACH WEEK *

1



Prepare the Bible study: Read and understand the passage to lead a group through it.

Time: 30 minutes

2



Run the Gathering: Lead the gathering through facilitation, helping the group understand and apply the passage, engage with one another, respond in prayer, and stay on time.

Time: Group times typically run from 1-3 hours once a week. E.g. ¼ informal relationship building & sharing, ½ Bible study, ¼ sharing & prayer time.

3



Follow up members: Pray for members, know their lives, and initiate regular contact (e.g. message, conversation, or catch-up) to encourage them in response to God's word.

Time: this could be anything from a 15min convo at church, a 5min text message, or a 1 hour catch up and coffee.

4



Train up future leaders: Model Growth Group leading, delegate leadership roles, observe and give feedback.

Time: Varies depending on your own experience and the Leader in Training, average 10mins a week of coaching conversations.

* EACH TERM *

1



Attend Growth Group Leaders Launch, for training & planning with your leadership team:

Plan the structure and features of your typical night and organise key events throughout the term, eg a social.

Time: 2 hours at the start of each term

2



Review: At the end of each term, complete a review form with the other leaders in your group. Reflecting on how well the group is growing toward its aims.

Time: 15mins once a term.

3



Meet with Community Leader: meet once a term to support you as you lead and continue to develop you as a leader.

Time: 1 hour once a term



QUALITIES

A Growth Group Leader is growing in and desiring to grow further in the following areas:



Kingdom first:

Seeking to live all of life motivated by the eternal reality of God's Kingdom.



Love God's word:

Loving the word of God and submitting yourself to it in humble obedience; fighting sin and pursuing godliness.



Love people:

Being relationally warm and socially aware. Caring deeply.



On board with us:

Partnering with us, sharing our Church's Reformed Evangelical convictions. Humble and teachable.



TRAINING

To love and serve people well Growth Group leaders seek to develop their skills to disciple effectively.

Leading a growth group involves skills that develop with training and experience. These are the areas to continue to develop over time:



Facilitator: Manage the room so that people are engaged, not dominated by one person or lost in silence. Guide discussion without offering all the answers and help people arrive at valid conclusions.



Bible Leader: Growing the group's understanding of the Scriptures, helping members wrestle with the passage and guiding them to a deeper understanding of it.



Disciple Maker:

Know the members of your group deeply to speak the word into their lives. Members are encouraged in their ongoing need to grow in every area of Christian life.



Trainer: Leaders are able to train and develop new leaders from within the Growth group, who share the vision of disciple making and the importance of the Growth Group Leading role.



TOOLS

To assist you in your growth, the following training tools are available to you.

1



Leaders Launch

Will run at the start of each term and will provide detailed breakdown of the upcoming book of the Bible, as well as a time of training in your respective networks.

2



The Simple Steps Podcast has a growing library of episodes full of practical tips for running effective Bible studies.

3



Growth Group Leaders Website:

As well as weekly Bible studies and accompanying teaching videos, there's training on aspects of Growth Group leadership to support your ongoing development.



LEADER SUPPORT

Growth Group Leaders serve within a supportive leadership structure and are not expected to carry the role alone. For this reason a number of supports are offered to you to ensure success in your role:



Growth Group Leader Website:

Here you can find weekly studies and short videos outlining the passage and walking you through the study.



evchurch.info/growthgroups
Password: solidhopejesus



Community Leader: Each leader is supported by a Community Leader (CL). The Community Leader provides encouragement, pastoral care, and guidance in leadership. They meet with leaders for reflection and planning, provide feedback and training, assist with pastoral situations that require escalation, and help identify and develop future leaders.



Leadership team: Leaders are also encouraged to develop a small leadership team within their Growth Group. This may include:

Assistant leader
Leader-in-training
Mission Rep
Female Assistant Leader
Other group members