

Goals for a Revamped Small Groups Ministry

1. Spiritual Growth – Deepen knowledge and obedience to God's Word.
2. Relational Connection – Strengthen bonds across all ages and stages.
3. Mutual Care – Share burdens, pray, and serve one another (Gal. 6:2).
4. Evangelism & Outreach – Invite seekers into a loving, truth-centered environment.
5. Leadership Development – Equip new teachers and shepherds (2 Tim. 2:2).

1. Current State

- List of current groups and when meeting?
- Are they more focused on study, fellowship, or both?
- Who is attending?
- What is their structure, purpose and goals?
- What are the barriers (e.g., time, childcare, unclear purpose)?

2. Vision & Structure

“Our small groups exist to help every member grow in Christ, build a Christ-centered community, connect in love, and serve with purpose.”

Different groups:

1. Connect groups
2. Huddle Groups
3. Discipleship Groups
4. Fellowship Groups

3. Recruit, Encourage, Train, Empower Group Leaders

Get a ministry leader who has passion for the small groups ministry to oversee the groups. Equip him with training materials, get him to help write up a “job description” and have an elder work with him.

Have a time to meet with all of the leaders for time to encourage, train and give ideas and expectations. Key Training Topics:

- How to facilitate discussion, not lecture
- Handling Scripture-centered conversations
- Dealing with difficult personalities
- Creating a welcoming, safe environment
- How to encourage prayer and service
- Getting group members invested and engaged

Scriptures to Share with Leaders:

- 2 Timothy 2:2 – Train others who can train others
- Acts 2:42–47 – Devoted to fellowship and teaching
- Hebrews 10:24–25 – Spur one another on in love

4. Relaunch the Ministry in September (after Labor Day)

Kickoff Ideas:

- Host a “Group Link” Sunday where people can meet group leaders and sign up.
- Create testimonies or short videos of members sharing how small groups impacted them.
- Print group directories with bios, times, and contact info.

Communication Tools: (start this marketing in August)

- Sign-ups via church website or email link
- Regular reminders from the pulpit
- Posters in the foyer and bulletin boards
- Group text/email systems

5. Offer Meaningful Study Materials

- Sermon Discussion Guides (made weekly)
- Book of the Bible (e.g., James, Acts, Philippians)
- The Chosen TV series
- Other materials
- Idea: Start with first month of everyone doing same study?

6. Build In Prayer, Service, and Fellowship

Emphasize that great small groups do more than meet:

- Serve together (visits, meal trains, community projects)
- Pray for each other weekly
- Share meals or game nights
- Celebrate birthdays and life events

7. Monitor

After 6 Months:

- Check in with leaders regularly
- Survey group members for feedback
- Adjust frequency, location, or format as needed

Biblical Foundation

- Acts 2:42–47 – The early church model: teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, and prayer.
- Romans 12:4–8 – Many parts, one body—each member plays a role.
- Colossians 3:16 – Teach and admonish one another with wisdom.
- 1 Corinthians 14:26 – “Each one has” something to contribute when gathered.