



SMALL GROUP LEADER TRAINING GUIDE

ORDER OF EVENTS

- 6:00 *DINNER WILL BE SERVED*
- 6:25 *SMALL GROUP INFORMATION UPDATE*
- 6:30 *TECH TOOLS FOR SMALL GROUPS*
- 6:45 *SMALL GROUP LAUNCH INFORMATION
FOR NEW SEASON STARTING SEPT. 12*
- 6:55 *SMALL GROUP TRAINING: CONNECTING
OTHERS TO GOD*
- 7:30 *DISMISSAL*

LEADER RESOURCES

smallgroups@gocoastal.org

MICHAEL BARD, Small Group Pastor

LEADER TRAINING

gocoastal.org/small-group-leaders-training/

LEADER PAGE

gocoastal.org/sgresources/

SMALL GROUP AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION RHYTHMS

Small Group Seasons:

- Spring: First full week of February - Palm Sunday
- Fall: Second week of September - Thanksgiving

Spiritual Formation Classes:

Spiritual Formation (these classes will also operate as a connection for people looking to be in a small group).

- January
- May
- June
- July through the beginning of August

Small Group Book Studies:

- Small groups can do book studies during the summer, but must make us aware of the study so our staff can review them.
 - We do this to maintain theological alignment.
 - We also want to make sure the group remains focused on the book.
 - Book Studies should also open up the opportunity for new people looking for small groups to attend.

The gift on your table is to be used by you and an apprentice as part of our desire to help you prepare your co-leaders to face key questions in your small group. If you would like more copies of this resource for small group leader development, let us know and we will be glad to resource you.

CHECKING BACK IN

In our previous training, we discussed how we can begin to develop new leaders for the sake of starting new groups. We also discussed how we can partner with small groups to help serve in our community. Take a minute to assess how your specific goals are moving forward.

GROW

Did you bring a new apprentice or co-leader with you that you are asking to lead a group in the future?

What is their name?

Take a moment to also celebrate how your group has participated in the "care" of one another. Tell a story at the table of something that happened over the past few months where your group participated in "care" of another small group participant.

SERVE

Was your group able to serve this past year in ministry and mission?

What ministry and or mission have you been supporting?

CONNECTING OTHERS TO GOD

EVANGELISM THROUGH SMALL GROUPS

Although small groups spend a majority of their weeks gathering for growth, small groups are also a great place to find partners in ministry. Small groups represent a good portion of our local congregation, and contribute to the overall good of the church. In your group, you also represent more than just gathering; you represent other communities in which you are involved. Whether it is your neighborhood, your life stage, your work, or your hobbies, we all are involved in more than just church. However, just because we are around new people or in separate environments does not mean we are no longer "the church".

We are discussing how to connect others to God, and how to invite them into relationship with the local church. We believe that your small group is a great way to invite people into their first step toward Christ, or for some, back into relationship with Christ. On this worksheet, take some time to work through how you and your group can partner with one another to connect others to God.

Prayer: Answer the following questions as written prayer.

Who in your life do you know that does not have a relationship with Christ? If no one immediately comes to mind, write down a prayer that God would open up opportunities for someone you could share your faith with over the next month.

In what way can you connect with them to get to know their story and potentially any obstacles that they are facing in regards to faith in Jesus?

How can you introduce them to other people in your group? Does your group have any regular outings or gathering times that would be ideal to invite someone new into the community? What would be an ideal situation for a new person to come to attend?

How do you intend to share the Gospel or present them with the gospel? For instance: the Roman Road, the 3 Circles illustration, the Cross illustration, the 4 Spiritual Laws, or other methods of conveying the Gospel.

What next steps would you encourage a new believer/seeker to take?

Suggestions of next steps from our team of staff: