

CHRIST CENTERED COMMUNITY (C3) GROUP COVENANT



DATES: We will meet every _____ night at _____ until 18 November. Our final meeting of the Fall will be on _____ November.

TIMES: Our meeting times will start at _____ and we will finish by _____. We will spend (approximately) _____ minutes with food/drinks (optional), _____ minutes in study/discussion, and _____ minutes in sharing/prayer. *(this is flexible but gives structure)*



HOMEWORK: We watch the sermon each week, complete the homework questions before the meeting begins, and bring our answers with us. *(key to good discussions!)*



ATTENDANCE: We will attend every group meeting until the end 18 November. Obviously, allowances are made for sickness, vacation, work conflicts, and other special events—but not much more! *(this is part of loving and respecting our group members)*



DISCUSSION: We will work to respect and love one another in discussion and prayer by following these guidelines:

1. Always listen to the leader's guidance
2. Try to allow everyone a chance to speak
3. Keep answers and prayers on topic
4. Try to be concise with your answers and prayers



PRAYER: We will pray for one another. *(We want to be praying for one another but you will never be forced to pray out loud)*



CHILDCARE: Each of us is responsible for our own childcare although we work together. Except for newborns, we will not have our kids in the meeting times, and we will do our best to keep these times distraction free. *(we want to be able to focus on one another without distraction and we want a place where we can be honest about tough subjects and be accountable to each other)*

SIGNATURES: We agree to love each other by our respect, our preparation, and our presence, and we agree in Christ to honor this covenant. (To be decided by each person on or before the third week.) *(Have the members sign the group Covenant now if they are ready. If not, they are welcome to wait until the third week of the semester)*

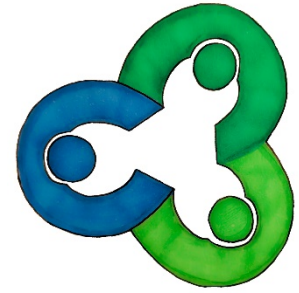


- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 11. _____ | 12. _____ |

Leaders Guide – C3 GROUP COVENANT

2 Corinthians 13:14 (NLT) — 14 May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Christ Centered Community depend on both commitment and consistency to be effective in discipleship and loving relationships! The purpose of this covenant is to allow the group to commit to love each other by your respect, your preparation, and your presence.



*⇒ Small groups thrive on participation and consistency! The purpose of this covenant is to **empower you** to deal with issues and discuss and clarify your group's goals, expectations, and commitments.*

THE PURPOSE OF CHRIST CENTERED COMMUNITY

C3 exists to edify the Body by embracing the grace of the Spirit in order to live out the love of the Son in fellowship that glorifies the Father (1 Thes 5:11; 2 Cor 13:14). C3 is designed to facilitate spiritual growth and deep relationships. This design has four core pieces:

FELLOWSHIP

Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. This may include answering questions designed to deepen relationships, sharing prayer and praise requests, or just "talking story."

STUDY

Each week we'll study a section from God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life and become better followers of Christ.

⇒ The goal is to engage with each other on different topics and to learn how to practically follow Christ as a community. The goal is not to always answer all the questions.

PRAYER

Each week we'll take time to pray together both to praise God for those things He has already done and to battle for one another and the needs we see around us.

⇒ We want everyone to be praying but if you are not comfortable praying out-loud then don't.

SERVICE

Spiritual Growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to our community (Ephesians 4:11-16).

FIVE MARKS OF A HEALTHY GROUP

For our group to be healthy, we need to . . .

1) Make spiritual growth our number one priority (Romans 8:29).

⇒ Our top priority is spiritual growth. Tangents are okay sometimes, but sometimes we will need to refocus. My job is to help us stay on topic. Does that make sense?

2) Accept one another (Romans 15:7).

⇒ We will have different preferences and opinions. That's ok! Our goal is to love one another regardless of our differences.

3) Take care of one another (John 13:34).

⇒ We are a support network for each other. When issues or problems come up we need to encourage, support, pray for, and provide for each other.

4) Treat each other with respect (Ephesians 4:25-5:2).

⇒ Respect is vital to a loving community

⇒ Lets really listen to each other. So if one person is talking, lets pay attention. Let's stick to one conversation at a time.

⇒ Our goal is to listen to each other. But that does not mean we need to give advice or try to fix every problem. Lets give advice when it's asked for and respectfully listen when someone just need to share. An example of advice is "well this is what I think you should do."

⇒ We want this to be a safe open place to share and grow together so be kind with your responses.

⇒ We want everyone to have the opportunity to share and contribute to our discussions. We have limited time in our meetings, so part of my job is to help everyone gets a chance to talk and that no one dominates with the "gift of gab"

⇒ What we share here, stays here. We want to be able to trust each other and we want to avoid any gossip (even in prayers)

5) Keep our commitments to the group (Psalm 15:1-2, 4b).

⇒ In order to thrive, we need to be committed to love each other consistently. So if you can't make it, please call me and let us know how we can be praying for you

⇒ This is the opportunity to explain the importance of commitment to your group.

THE PURPOSE OF THE COVENANT

The C3 covenant is simply a promise between our groups members that we commit to love one another to the best of our abilities with our respect, our preparation, and our presence. Each of our group members makes this promise because...

⇒ This promise is to the people in this room. This isn't a commitment to the church or the pastors. In order to really growth together, we have to be able to rely on each other.

1. The covenant helps protect the intimacy and togetherness of our group
2. In order for real relationships to form and thrive, there must be consistency and commitment
3. The covenant helps us stay accountable to each other as a community
4. When we agree to a set of guidelines and principles, everyone knows what the expectations are
5. A covenant helps keep the group focused on discipleship and relationship
6. Jesus called us to radical commitment to follow Him and to love others, and the covenant is a tangible example of that commitment