



James 1:22 says, "But be DOERS of the word, and not hearers only...(ESV)." Our approach is to provide opportunities to practically DO what we hear from the word of God. Each Doer Group Series students will go through the process of Meet, Pray, Do, and It's On You. The goal here is to help each student develop an all-encompassing view of what it means to be a follower of Christ. There will be elements of fellowship, prayer, service, study and challenge. We are helping develop DOERS of the WORD!

## vision:

Sometimes ministries fall into the trap of doing one of two things (or both). First, they fall into the trap of gaining knowledge. When the prize of a ministry is to learn something new! It is false to believe the more I know about God the better "Christian" I become. Knowledge is useless if it fails to turn into action. The second trap is the trap of inward focus. The false belief that I come to be with friends, therefore to focus beyond them would be uncomfortable and require too much of me.

Though knowledge isn't bad, nor is fellowship... they become poison to a ministry when they're the only focus. In the case of youth ministry at ECOB, Doer Groups was created to enhance the knowing and fellowship. There will always be an element of learning something, but in this case we're not only learning, but understanding it, then applying it. We will continue to be together, but together with the purpose of looking outward, beyond the needs of the group.

## heartbeat:

Christ was not satisfied with followers who stood still. He was extremely not fond of excuses as well. If we are followers of Christ, then we not only know Christ as the WORD but must DO what He did. Do what The WORD did! Doer Groups main goal is to give students an opportunity to *be* Christ in a world that desperately needs him, not just *know* Christ in this world. A secondary goal is to help students see they can be followers of Christ now, not just wait until they graduate.

## Format:

Sundays will be the only regular gathering time for grades 6-12. The evening will be two hours long. Generally, the first 45 minutes will consist of a large group gathering. There will be worship music and a collective teaching. After the teaching, the groups will split between Sr. High and Jr. High for small groups. The hope is for Sr. High to be able to travel to a local home and continue their discussion there. The Jr. High will remain at the church for small groups. The small groups will be led each month by specific people who are selected by the Doer Group Team who (hopefully) have a passion for the Theme of the Doer Group Series.

# elements:

## meet

The first element is focused on learning God's Word. It will be within MEET that students will discover the Theme, the main scripture passage and consequently what "The Do" is for the Doer Group Series. There will be times of review, and times of learning new material. Either way, the primary goal of this element is to learn and gain knowledge.

## pray

The second element is a focus on Prayer. There will be a "flexible structure" to this time. There will be some specific items to pray for, especially in looking toward the following element ("The Do"). There will also be time to lift each other up in prayer as well. The goal for this element is to help teens understand the importance prayer plays in our walk with Christ and in accomplishing His purposes for His Kingdom.

## do

Each set, we will be focusing on a specific theme. The goal, therefore, will be to take that theme and provide an opportunity for students to become DOERS of what God's Word speaks of it. We want to encourage teens to carry the Word with them, and give them ways to express it (verbally and nonverbally).

This will not always be on a Sunday because each "The Do" depends more on the activity than it does on the day. RockHouse will always provide transportation if needed for "The Do".

## it's on you

Lastly, we want to create a culture of teens that go beyond the social barriers that proclaim this generation needs to be spoon-fed Christian truths. So, we've spent the entire month teaching them how to DO God's Word, and thus we leave the last week for them to take what they've learned and DO it themselves.

One direction we're taking in accomplishing this aspect is with shut-in visitation. We will be taking the last Sunday we meet each month and going out to visit with those who aren't able to get out of their homes. The strategy to make this a part of the "it's on you" is to make these visitations "adult-free".

This is such an important element in our ministry because we want students to understand they are making a difference NOW, not to wait for when they're "on their own". Or even worse, when students are on their own not knowing how to DO God's Word.

# dictionary:

**Doer Group Series** - A set is Meet, Pray, Do, It's On You all focused on the same theme with the same thread interweaving through each focus of God's Word. The set can be as long as we want to make it.

**Element** - Each Doer Group Series is comprised of four elements. Meet, Pray, Do, It's On You as described above.

**Themes** - Doer Group Series are based on a theme. The theme is to interweave and bleed throughout the entire set. From the Meet to the It's On You, each element will have the same theme so students can gain a comprehensive approach to God's Word and realize that God's Word is more than just something we read, but it's something we do!

For example: If the theme is Forgiveness. Students will Meet (and learn about forgiveness). Then they will Pray (and pray together asking for forgiveness, giving forgiveness, and thanking God for his forgiveness). Then they will Do (and will have an activity or event that focuses on forgiveness). Finally, the It's On You will ask students to find ways to seek forgiveness on their own.

**"The Do"** - Is the third element in applying God's Word. It can be an event. It can be a weekend mission trip. It can be a challenge for the group to accomplish. Essentially, it is the practical application of the Doer Group Series.