



Group Formation Phase – Introduction to Discipleship

The group formation phase can last as long as you need to ensure the group is ready for covenant with God and group in discipleship. Most formation periods last 3-12 months, but you can discern the best timeline. Listen to the needs of your group and help understand what they are committing to.

Group leader’s personal prayer for your group: That those within my influence have a chance to accept Christ, express their desires and receive an introduction to God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Bible, and basic Christian spiritual disciplines. Ask God to make the group warm, welcoming and safe for people to share.

Instructions: Select when you will do the activities in each section and add to the calendar.

Knowledge: Renewing our minds to think like Jesus 26 total out of 30 weeks

1. Genesis 1-2 Bible study unpacking the Scripture on 4:19 website – 3 lessons
2. *Essential Guide to Being a Disciple* by Greg Ogden – 8 lessons
3. *Celebration of Discipline* by Foster (part 1 and 2) – 9 lessons
4. *Understanding Covenant* lesson on 4:19 website – 1 lesson

Character: Spiritual practices are activities that we do with God so that we start to respond like Christ (example – overcoming temptations Luke 4:1-13). These are not outward behaviors but practices that draw us closer to God to allow Him to transform us.

Add these to class time teachings:

- Gratitude – invite them to journal or pray every day for the things that are grateful for.
- Confession – practice honesty with God about our sins. Pray about the inward and outward “yes” to temptations and acknowledging that only God can help us overcome our sins.
- Prayer – Teach how and invite them to spend time each day in prayer.

PRAISE	Matthew 6:9	“Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.’”
REPENT	Matthew 6:12	“And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors”.



ASK	Matthew 6:11 & 13	“Give us this day our daily bread.” “And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. (For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.”
YEILD	Matthew 6:10	“Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”

- Watch *Inductive Bible Study* taught by Jason Zemke on 4:19 website in the video resources section.
- Watch YouTube video: *A Simple Approach to Lectio Divina: Read, Think, Pray, Rest* by Tricia Rhodes on 4:19 website. Make this method of meditating on Scripture a daily practice.
- Read and discuss *My Heart; Christ's Home* on 4:19 website.

Don't forget:

- Discuss, pray, and sign the covenant agreement when ready to move to the next phase. Let them keep the copy and review the contents periodically.
- Take attendance at each meeting on Realm
- Pray daily for your group