

# **Community Group Purpose**

As a community of grace, we live in authentic relationship with fellow followers of Christ that others may hear and be transformed by the power of the Gospel. Community groups are essential and foundational to our personal transformation. We believe that it is in Community Groups that we learn to Enjoy God, Magnify Grace, Love Others, Understand Truth, Live in Integrity, Advance the Gospel, and Depend on the Spirit. Jesus modeled these values for us and our priorities for community groups are born out of these values:

**Mission:** intentionally help group members realign their lives with God's mission.

**Growth:** intentionally disciple and motivate one another for life change with the gospel.

**Care:** intentionally caring for the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of others.

**Fellowship:** intentionally communicating and investing to help the group share life.

# **Community Group Goals**

#### **Gospel-Centered**

Our relationships are built on the Gospel as we live in sanctifying relationships with others, taking the Gospel to those in need of a Savior. These are Gospel outposts, centered on the Gospel, and taking the Gospel to others.

### Serving

Just as Christ came to serve, we ask that our community groups serve regularly. This may be outside of the body or inside the body; but serving is a rhythm modeled in Scripture and practiced in community groups. You can serve either as a whole group or with other members in the group. Relationships are deepened between group members, and opportunities are created to share the Gospel as we are changed through service.

#### Multiplication

God is at work in growing his Church through his Church. Meaning, community groups grow and multiply as they daily live on mission. We know the harvest is ripe and God is calling people to himself every day. As we participate in God's mission, our community groups multiply, and our leaders multiply, as God grows the Church.

#### Content

Community groups are patterned by discussion questions around the values of Fellowship Greenville and the sermons. All believers are members of the body and bring unique giftings and wirings for the building up of the body. Discussion fosters an environment for all to participate and grow. There are seasons when using books is appropriate. If a group plans to use a book study, a staff member in Community Life must approve it.

## **Authenticity**

Being a believer means we live in authenticity with one another. Community groups are places of vulnerability where trust is created, respected, and not broken. This is modeled by the leaders, and based on our identity in Christ. Community is where we are free to be as we are - open, transparent, and messy - running the race together.

### **Belonging**

We ask that community groups meet a minimum of twice a month. If we belong to Christ, then we belong to each other and must be willing to be available to gather regularly. We also suggest that men and women meet together separately throughout the month to encourage intimacy and growth.