



P.O.I.N.T. GROUPS

WHY POINT GROUPS?

To interact with fellow believers for growth, encouragement, accountability, support and for partnership in reaching out to those who need Christ. Sunday services are primarily for worship and study of God's truth. Point Groups are for relationship development and will help people apply the truth to their personal lives.

WHAT ARE POINT GROUPS?

- P – Prayer for personal needs and for evangelism.
- O – Outreach to those who need Christ – by inviting seekers to attend your group and by partnership in service projects.
- I – Integrity – Holding each other accountable in our spiritual growth.
- N – Nurture – Caring for and encouraging one another.
- T – Training – Opportunities for being equipped for ministry.

It's usually best if groups meet weekly. People will be encouraged to join groups in the area where they live. Some age specific ("20 somethings," youth, young marrieds, seniors, etc.) or interest groups (sports, hobbies, missions) can be offered.

Groups will be "open," allowing members to find the best group for them.

Total time: 90 min. to 2 hours.

- Meal (optional – if done then the "Sharing" element can happen during the meal)
- Sharing – 20-30 min. (What's happening? How has God been working?)
- Prayer for personal needs – 15-20 min.
- Outreach – plans and praying 10-15 min.
- Training – 20-30 min. (Evangelism, parenting, finances, Bible study methods, hospital visitation, etc.)
- Discussion/application of lesson – 20-30 min.

WHAT ARE THE LEADERS RESPONSIBILITIES?

- ✓ Oversee spiritual growth of group members.
- ✓ Identify and equip an apprentice leader.
- ✓ Pray weekly for members of group.
- ✓ Listen to weekly messages (at church or on CD).
- ✓ Facilitate Point Group meetings (with Apprentice Leader).
- ✓ Attend periodic leaders' meetings (B.O.L.D.)
- ✓ Encourage group members to complete Entry Point classes.
- ✓ Be familiar with the philosophy of a "Disciple-Focused" Church.

PROGRAM BASED CHURCH (Not the focus we want)	DISCIPLE-FOCUSED CHURCH (This is the focus we want)
Its ministries are mostly centralized.	Its ministries are mostly decentralized.
Its effectiveness is evaluated by the quantity and quality of its ministries.	Its effectiveness is evaluated by the quantity and quality of its disciples.
Its people ask the question: "What is the church doing?"	Its people ask the question: "What are we as believers doing?"
It views the professional staff as the pastors.	It views the small-group leaders as the pastors.
Its members are expected to be consumers.	Its members are expected to be ministers.
Its small-group's function as "homes" that meet the needs of God's people.	Its small group's function both as "homes" that meet the needs of God's people, and as "missions" that reach the unchurched communities.
Its strategy for making mature believers is singularly focused on the delivery of truth.	Its strategy for making mature believers is multi-focused on requirements of truth, equipping, accountability, mission, and prayer.
It places undo emphasis on the importance of teachers.	It places equal emphasis on the importance of teachers, pastors, and disciplers.
Its classroom ministry is more important than its small-group ministry.	Its small-group ministry is more important than classroom ministry.
Its staff and elders focus primarily on deciding and directing.	Its staff and elders focused primarily on discipling, pastoring, and teaching.