

# Group Covenant: Small Group Purpose, Values and Goals

## Purpose

ACFgroups' grow relationships that inspire knowing, loving and serving Jesus Christ.

### Group members agree to the following values & goals:

#### Commitment

We give priority to the group meeting and will call or email if we will be late or absent.

#### Authenticity

We strive for open, honest relationships that are gentle and gracious. We are a safe place where people are heard, valued and respected. We share what God is doing in our lives, our trials and victories. When we allow ourselves to be open and honest with one another, we open the door for God to work in our group.

#### Mutual Accountability

We will help one another pursue lives that are spiritually healthy and pleasing to God. To model appropriate respect for the study of scripture and to defer to anyone who may struggle, we will refrain from consuming alcohol during group meetings.

#### **Confidentiality**

Everything that is shared is kept strictly confidential within the group, and we avoid sharing improper information about those outside the group.

#### Others-Centered

We are not just takers but givers of life. We grow spiritually by others-centered thinking and serve others with our God-given gifts.

#### Inviting

We keep an open chair and share Jesus's command of finding a shepherd for every sheep by inviting newcomers.

#### Shared Ownership

Every member of the group is a minister and will assume a role or responsibility within the small group over time.

#### Discipleship

We will each invest in one or two others whom we can support more diligently and help grow into committed disciples who, in turn, will make other disciples.

Every new group should discuss their purpose and values together so that members are in agreement. For existing groups, it's helpful to review the covenant annually and every time a new member joins.