



THE POINT CHURCH
POINT GROUP LEADER MANUAL

THE REASON FOR THIS BOOK

This book is an instruction manual for you as a Point Group leader. It will guide and assist you in many ways, including understanding the purpose and mission of Point Groups, as well as helping you to lead your group to succeed through community, discipleship training, and in changing the world.

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DEFINITIONS

A **DISCIPLE** is a follower of Jesus (Christian) who learns the gospel, relates in the gospel, and communicates the gospel.

DISCIPLE-MAKING is intentionally equipping believers with the Word of God through accountable relationships, empowered by the Holy Spirit to replicate faithful followers of Christ.

DISCIPLESHIP is an intentional pursuit to transform into the image of Jesus Christ by obeying his commands for a lifetime.

EVANGELISM is sharing the Gospel (Good News) of Jesus Christ with someone to help them know and follow Jesus as Lord through repentance and faith.

MULTIPLICATION is empowering those who are discipled to disciple others.

CHAPTER ONE

**DESIGNED FOR
MISSIONAL
COMMUNITY**

DESIGNED FOR MISSIONAL COMMUNITY

Mankind is not designed to live in isolation.

God created us for community—both with Himself and with each other. When we create true biblical community, we step into God's design for how we are to live and for how He planned on spreading His name throughout the nations.

There are around two billion people on the planet who claim to be Christians— more than any other religion (so far). This is an astounding fact, considering Acts 1:15 tells us that the number of Jesus' disciples around the time of His ascension was about 120. Over the next 2,000 years, these people continued the movement that their Master started, made it outlast the Roman empire, and spread it onto every continent on the Earth.

They didn't do this by having a few well-spoken master evangelists, but by creating true, life-changing community. Biblical community is more than a Bible study or a hangout time with friends; it is what happens when the people of God come together to be His Church.

Our task as the Church is to continue the work that Jesus began when He passed the baton to His disciples in Matthew 28. It should be our mission to help people know God, and community, make disciples, and change the world. Since this is true, there has to be a place where that kind of God-guided transformation can occur in their lives. Biblical community, based on the community Jesus built, is the space for that transformation.

THE DNA OF A POINT GROUP

Our strategy for forming biblical community is not a man-given method. Instead, it comes from the way that Jesus fostered community.

When Jesus commissioned His disciples to make disciples, He didn't give them a manual for how to do it. Rather, they simply did it the way that Jesus modeled it for them. They relied on His precedent to be sufficient for them.

The strategy was going to have to be both flexible enough to handle large numbers of new believers and simple (and powerful) enough to be replicated in any place where there were believers to carry it out. Soon after Jesus left them, the model that He ingrained in them was put to the test. Acts 2:41–47 shows us a snapshot of what life was like in an early Christian community:

So those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand people were added to them. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and signs were being performed through the apostles. Now all the believers were together and held all things in common. They sold their possessions and property and distributed the proceeds to all, as any had need. Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple, and broke bread from house to house. They ate their food with joyful and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. Every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The first-century church devoted themselves to the Apostles' teaching, to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. They were mission-minded open groups fully committed to one another and to spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ to their communities. At The Point Church, we adopt their same values when forming Point Groups. We hold to these values because they formed the biblical community that preserved the Gospel until today.

THE EARLY CHURCH'S DEVOTION

We devote ourselves to faithful teaching of the Word of God, to fellowship, to sharing meals together, and to praying with and for each other because that is the model that was given to us by Jesus and His followers. Let's look at how Scripture shows each of these.

DEVOTED TO THE APOSTLES' TEACHING

First-century believers did not have the New Testament like we do today, for the first Gospels were only just being written as the Christian community began growing. So when we hear that the people in these groups were devoting themselves to the Apostles' teaching, it is important to understand what the Apostles have been teaching in the first place.

The passage immediately preceding Acts 2:41 is a sample of the kinds of things the Apostles preached. In this passage, after the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost, Peter stands up among the disciples and delivers a powerful sermon that affirms Jesus' deity, demonstrates how Jesus fulfilled Old Testament prophecy, proclaims that He rose from the dead, exposes the people's need for repentance, and focuses people on the saving power of Christ. While he was speaking, Peter was careful to weave his thoughts together with Scripture. He spoke about the Jesus that they saw with words that were written about Him thousands of years earlier—he took Scripture and rightly explained it.

Paul explains how crucial this teaching is to the Christian faith in 1 Corinthians 15. There, he wrote:

For I passed on to you as most important what I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve. (15:3–5)

He also wrote later in that chapter:

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say, "There is no resurrection of the dead"? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation is in vain, and so is your faith. (15:12–14)

The Apostles taught simple things: Who Jesus was, what He taught, and what He accomplished at the cross. They taught it, those who heard it taught it to others, and the message passed through the centuries to reach you in your chair right now.

The Apostles taught by explaining how Scripture points to Jesus because He began this method of teaching Himself. In Luke 24:13-31, the resurrected Jesus came alongside two disciples walking on the Emmaus Road and, “beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He interpreted for them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.” (Luke 24:27)

There were rabbis and teachers aplenty who could share a lesson from the Scriptures, but the Apostles were teaching something new. They proved how each of these lessons pointed to the promised Messiah and how people could come to know Him, put their faith in Him, and receive the gift of eternal life that comes only through repentance and faith in the One, True Messiah— Jesus.

When we hear that Jesus’ followers were devoting themselves to the Apostles’ teaching, we can know that teaching was like Peter’s sermon on Pentecost. Furthermore, when we hear that they were devoting themselves to it, it means that they were doing more than talking about how good Peter’s sermon was. They were discussing it with each other and helping one another apply what it said to their lives—further changing them into faithful followers of Christ.

We have access to the very truths they would have taught, and we are blessed to have pastors unashamed to teach it. As we learn to cultivate Christian community in our family, friends, and neighborhoods, we can take a lesson from these early believers: receive teaching with a large number of like- minded people (like a worship gathering) and then break off into smaller, more manageable groups of people to discuss it, discover how to apply it, and depend on each other for support to live it out. We can devote ourselves to a faithful expositor’s teaching, because we know that his teaching is not his own, but is rather from the Word of God.

DEVOTED TO FELLOWSHIP

Acts 2:42 tells us that the first-century communities were also devoted to what most translations call “the fellowship.” The word used here for “fellowship” is the Greek word *Koinonia*. *Koinonia* has a special place in Scripture, because it is a simple word expressing a rich and powerful concept. It shows up in a few other places in the New Testament as well:

- *Koinonia* with the Spirit (Philippians 2:1)
- *Koinonia* in the Gospel (Philippians 1:5)
- *Koinonia* with the Son (1 Corinthians 1:9)
- *Koinonia* with one another (1 John 1:7)

This word for “fellowship” or “community” has, as we see in the above examples, several different contexts. But when a group of people has Koinonia, it means they are gathered together under the banner of a common idea or goal. They may share nothing in terms of wealth, social status, ethnicity, physical ability, hobbies, likes and dislikes, or maturity, but what they do share unites them more than any of those things could. Koinonia allows them to have individual diversity but unity as a group.

What people share in common affects their relationships with each other. If a team has been assembled to build a house, there may be individuals with specific skills people who build roofs, lay foundations, or install windows but everything is for the purpose of building a house. In this way, our biblical Point Groups will be made up of unique individuals with different skill sets, passions, and talents, but gathered together for a common purpose: a passion for Jesus Christ and for carrying out what He commissioned us to.

Koinonia is behind everything people in a Point Group do. They care for one another, encourage each other, serve together, eat together, mourn together, pray together, rejoice together, and learn together because they are all devoted to the same God. Christ is the glue that binds biblical community together and grows each of the members into Himself.

Of course, there are many kinds of community in the Christian life. There is community with the Trinity, made possible by the sacrifice of God’s Son, Jesus, on the cross. There is community with the global body of believers, who are spread across the face of the earth making God’s name great and making disciples who will follow Him, too. There is even community within a church—we share similar buildings and worship styles, restaurants, and back roads. But the most specific kind of community is the one we cultivate in our Point Groups. These are the people we will grow next to for a season. We will share things with them, whether they be meals or hang-ups from our past. We will find rest with them and get to know them, and all for the purpose of fulfilling the mission of God: to make disciples of all nations.

DEVOTED TO BREAKING OF BREAD

When Luke tells us about these communities’ devotion to “the breaking of bread,” it is possible that the phrase means the ceremonial observance of the Lord’s Supper, but in the context of Acts 2 the likely meaning of the verb is a normal meal that believers would have partaken together.

As we exemplify the biblical community described in Acts 2, we should remember that holy moments don't need to be big to-dos. We should also avoid profaning something meant to be holy. We can't think of ourselves more than those around us. We shouldn't indulge our own desires at the expense of those in our midst who may have less than we do. We can't treat the people we are intentionally equipping with the Word of God like they matter less than we do, and we can't frivolously use the time we've set aside to do that in. If we are following the progression that Luke lays out for us in Acts 2:42, we already see that these community groups—Point Groups—were not mere get-togethers among friends. They were highly purposed and laser-focused on growing people closer together and into the image of Christ.

DEVOTED TO PRAYER

The Christian life is one that should be lived in constant fellowship with the Father. Because of the sacrifice of His Son on our behalf, we have the privilege of constant access to Him (Ephesians 2:18).

Devotion to prayer is essential as we gather together with the aim of replicating faithful followers of Christ. As a Point Group, you form close relationships and learn about each other on a deeper level than casual friendships afford. This depth of relationship allows you to intentionally pray for one another's needs, for one another's personal struggles, and in celebration of one another's victories. You also have the opportunity to join with brothers and sisters in praying for what burdens God's heart as well.

RESULTS OF THEIR DEVOTION

The early church's devotion to a specific set of values was remarkable, and it helped create one of the fastest recorded explosions of the church in history. It also did something else: it fostered an atmosphere of mutual care, unity, and a missional mindset that would soon spread all over the world.

THEIR DEVOTION RESULTED IN MUTUAL CARE

Each member of a community has different needs than his or her neighbor. We see in Acts 2:44-45 that "all the believers were together and held all things in common. They sold their possessions and property and distributed the proceeds to all, as any had need."

Some have wrongfully compared the early church's mutual care with Communism. This comparison couldn't be further from the truth. Where Communism says, "what's yours is mine," Christianity says, "what's mine is yours." We catch a glimpse of this mentality in Acts 2, but at the end of Acts 4, we see more detail.

Now the entire group of those who believed were of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but instead they held everything in common. With great power the apostles were giving testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was on all of them. For there was not a needy person among them because all those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the proceeds of what was sold, and laid them at the apostles' feet. This was then distributed to each person as any had need.

(Acts 4:32-35)

When people gather together for a common purpose, their focus shifts away from self and toward the group. While these verses are not necessarily an exhortation to sell everything you have and give it away, they emphasize the reprioritization of our own personal belongings.

If we are gathered together in a Christ-like community that values God's command to take the gospel to the nations, we must shift our priorities to serving those around us. This mentality is exceedingly simple: if someone has a need and you have the ability to meet that need, it is your joy to be able to do so.

A need plus awareness of that need equals a responsibility to provide for that need as best as we can.

NEED + AWARENESS = RESPONSIBILITY

Mutual care doesn't have to be anything drastic. It can look like lending a truck to someone in your group who is moving, being on call for 3 a.m. emergencies, dropping by with soup when someone is sick, praying expectantly for a personal hardship, or volunteering to watch a couple's children so they can have a date night.

The generosity we see in Acts 2 and Acts 4 was not just something that was for a specific time and people. It wasn't the result of a different kind of outpouring of the Holy Spirit. It was the natural response of a group of people so overwhelmed by the grace they'd received through Christ Jesus that they couldn't help but share it with others.

In 1 John 3:16-18, the Apostle wrote about this kind of devotion to one another's needs:

This is how we have come to know love: He laid down his life for us. We should also lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has this world's goods and sees a fellow believer in need but withholds compassion from him—how does God's love reside in him? Little children, let us not love in word or speech, but in action and in truth.

Having a community of people who care for one another is a source of unmatched joy.

THEIR DEVOTION RESULTED IN UNITY

The early church's devotion to Scripture, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayer also brought a spectacular unity among them. It is impossible to read the accounts presented in Acts 2 and 4 without being overwhelmed by the life-changing unity attained through gospel-centered community.

The unity of a group of people with one heart and mind will yield a profound result: love. Paul wrote what this kind of love looks like in Romans 12:9-16,

Love must be without hypocrisy. Detest evil; cling to what is good. Show family affection to one another with brotherly love. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lack diligence; be fervent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; be persistent in prayer. Share with the saints in their needs; pursue hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Be in agreement with one another. Do not be proud; instead, associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own estimation.

This kind of love, which comes out of a body of people devoted to Jesus Christ, naturally pours from their unity. When it is Christ that binds us together, it is Christ's characteristics that will flow out of us and make Him known to the world. It is as He, Himself, said: "By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35). Our love for one another, expressed by our devotion to God and the needs of one another, will be what set us apart from a world searching for what we've found in Christ. In a world that is growing more divided, it should be the body of Christ that stands unified and ready to receive anyone who desires to find it for themselves.

THEIR DEVOTION RESULTED IN MISSIONAL LIVING

Biblical Community was the means by which the Holy Spirit exponentially grew the early Christian Church. When the political, ideological, and societal forces pressed in on the body of Christ, it grew them closer together and was not able to crush it. Even when early Christians were strung up in Nero's court and set fire atop stakes, fed to lions for sport, and hunted by zealous Jews who thought Jesus was a blasphemer, nothing the enemy could throw at them was able to subdue them or quench their fame. They were still intent on reaching the world.

The explosive growth of the church as seen in Acts 2:47 is a direct fulfillment of Jesus' mandate in Acts 1:8. The book of Acts tells us 120 took the Good News of Jesus Christ throughout the Earth. As the Apostles were faithful to preach the message Jesus sent them with, all who gathered to believe came together and relied on each other to be sharpened, supported, and encouraged despite outside circumstances.

We have a similar privilege today. If we are to be faithful and fruitful followers of Christ, it should be our heart to see people know God, and community, make disciples, and change the world. What drives our efforts are Gospel-centered relationships empowered by the Holy Spirit. Biblical Connection Groups are more than just a program that the church offers; they are the way believers become the Church

Missional living is simple. It does not require extra steps or special actions; it simply means that you live life on a mission for Christ. If you have come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah and that by believing on Him you have been adopted into the Kingdom of God which goes on forever, that changes the way you live. It colors the encounters you have with strangers, it affects how you respond to stressful situations and unfair treatment. As citizens of another Kingdom, we recognize that this world is not our home, and we will share that knowledge with the people we come across.

As we create places for people to believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and become replicators of what they've learned, we become links in a chain that was begun 2,000 years ago by the God of Creation. Seasoned believers and people from all walks of life will look in on the life-changing community exemplified in Christ-centered groups devoted to making Jesus Christ and the Good News that He represents known among all people.

NOW WHAT?

The Point's mission is loving people to the point of life: Jesus Christ. In many ways a Point Group is the first step that most people take toward becoming fully devoted followers of Christ. Their experience with biblical community in a Point Group may be the spark that inspires them to create biblical community in their own context.

The DNA outlined previously shows how Point Groups function. They are devoted to Scriptural teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, and praying with and for each other. That devotion inspires mutual care, unity, and missional living. What follows in the rest of the sections of this book is a practical guide for what that looks like in our lives today. We will look at what it means to start a group well, explore practical tips for leadership, explain how to use the Bible-based resources and curriculum, and offer some tips for how to multiply a group once it is time.

CHAPTER TWO

STARTING WELL, MEETING WELL, LEADING WELL, + CONTENT

STARTING WELL, MEETING WELL, LEADING WELL, + CONTENT

We've seen how first-century communities lived their lives. We've noted their devotions and the results of those devotions. We've even seen the exponential growth that they saw as a result of their willingness to be used by God to further His Kingdom. In the rest of this book, we are going to take what we've noticed and apply it to our context in an extremely practical way. We will walk you through the "life cycle" of a Point Group from the first night to the time when your group has outgrown a single home and must replicate itself elsewhere. On the first night your Point Group meets, we think it is important to make the path of a Biblical Point Group clear. You will want to accomplish things:

1. **Get to know each other**
2. **Set realistic expectations.**

The people walking into your home on the first night are some of the people you will be growing with for the duration of your group, so it is important that you get to know one another. You may have people coming and going, but setting the tone with an air of friendliness and hospitality is crucial. Remember, Point Groups are places for you to develop authentic community.

The first step on the first night is to get to know one another. Take the opportunity at the beginning of your first night (and every night after that) to bond over a meal.

INTRODUCTIONS

Eating together is a perfect time to get to know one another. The first thing you can do is share a little bit about yourself: How did you come to know the Lord? How did you end up living where you live? What do you do for a living? How did you meet your spouse (if you are married)?

After you introduce yourselves, you should allow your group members to get acquainted with each other (which will help you get to know them, too). This is an entirely organic process—do what feels natural to you. You could ask questions like the ones you answered about yourself, you could play "Two Truths and a Lie," you could have everybody write a bizarre fact about themselves on a piece of paper and then have everybody guess to whom it applies, or any number of other options. Remember: you are just getting to know one another.

The second thing you should do during this first night is to set the expectations for your group. It is a good idea to go around the room and ask what their expectations are. Once you discuss them, you can address any confusion by stating the expectations that you should hold your group to:

SCHEDULE

MEET WEEKLY

In order for your Point Group to be effective, you should meet together regularly. This is best done by keeping a consistent day of the week to meet. As the leader, you can establish the day and time that works best for you and your family: you are leading this group, so the “when” should meet your schedule first and foremost. Sometimes, polling the room to determine when everyone can meet simply doesn’t work. Take the initiative and set your meeting time— most of the time, people can work around one night of the week.

PARTY MONTHLY

It is also important to incorporate a measure of fun in anything that you do. It shouldn’t be all business all the time. Part of developing relationships in the group is doing things together outside of the normal routine. For this reason, we suggest a monthly outing that is a break from the norm. Go out to eat or go bowling, catch a movie or cook out at one of your members’ neighborhood pools.

PARTNER MONTHLY - SERVE FREQUENTLY

We live in a world surrounded by hurt and brokenness, so it is wise to also schedule times to serve in your communities as a Point Group. Once a quarter, perhaps, step out and meet the needs of your community together.

It will unify the group and reinforce Gospel-centered relationships with one another. Through The Point, there are huge numbers of opportunities for you to undertake as a Point Group; the Point Groups team will be a great resource to point you in the right direction should you need it. The Point will provide you a list of ideas for serving so don’t worry too much on what you can do.

SHARING RESPONSIBILITY

As the leader/facilitator of your Point Group, you will help keep the discussion focused, but that does not mean you should do all of the work. Here are some ways you can have your group share responsibility:

HOSTING

You are by no means required to meet in the same location week after week, but it is often helpful to have somewhere to park. Some groups have found success rotating houses every four to six weeks. Rotating houses does two things: it helps keep the location fresh, and it provides more members of your group with leading and hosting experience. If they can experience it within the safe confines of their existing Point Group, they will be more likely to replicate when the time comes.

MEALS

It should not always fall to the same person to provide the food for your Point Group. Some groups have found it helpful to keep a meal calendar (and to put one of the members in charge of maintaining it) so that everyone is sharing responsibility. Contributing to the group produces a sense of ownership, and will help contribute to the unity your group cultivates.

PROJECTS

As we seek to change the world, putting one of your members in charge of service projects will both streamline that process and give them ownership of the group's missional mindset. Even if this service is as simple as pouring a cup of coffee on Sunday morning or working as a parking lot greeter, it will connect your group with what is happening in the church at large.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Charge one of your members with keeping track of the prayer requests that your group raises. That person can then keep your members updated throughout the week with reminders to pray, and celebrate when those prayers were answered. It is encouraging to see how God works in a group's life while they are committed to praying for one another.

APPRENTICE LEADER

One final way you can share responsibility in the group is to raise up an apprentice leader. This is someone you intentionally pour into, who you think would make a great Point Group leader. Give your apprentice leader opportunities to help you facilitate discussion some weeks or reach out to the group to let them know about a dinner outing. Slowly give them more responsibility as you see that they are capable, meet up with them for coffee during the week, and then encourage them to replicate what you have done with them in someone else.

GROUP RESOURCES

Because we are focused on the Word of God, we will structure our Point Groups' learning around it, as well. Remember the verse from Acts 2 and what their first devotion was: "the Apostles' teaching." You will be supplied with sermon-based curriculum each week that is Word-driven and Gospel-centered. This content can be found on our website at tothepoint.church/pointgroups. You will also be supplied with extra resources for your D-Group.

OPEN-GROUP MENTALITY

Multiplying groups is the best way to reach our cities with biblical community. If we relied on building new buildings every time the church grew, we'd quickly be hindered by space, money, or design ingenuity. By moving the center of spiritual growth of the Church campus and planting them around the places that people live, we are suddenly able to accommodate any number of people who respond to the Good News of Christ. All we need is a house and a willing leader. For this reason, Point Groups should have an "Open Group" mentality. We celebrate meeting and helping new people grow in their faith and in community with godly people.

There is a difference between a "Closed Group" and a "Full Group." Groups with a closed mentality are, for one reason or another, unwilling to take on more people. A full group is one that has filled the capacity of the space where they meet. Perhaps it's a group that has too many people to effectively create close, biblical community with those in attendance. If you find yourself running out of space, we do not expect you to replicate immediately to be able to accommodate them.

CHILDCARE

For many, one of the biggest barriers to creating effective community in a Point Group is the issue of childcare. The question becomes, “What happens to the children when the adults meet for Point Group?”

Before tackling this question, remember one simple point: life is messy, so it’s okay if Point Groups are, too. Still, many groups have found a few ways to make childcare nothing more than a minor issue. For some, they’ve found success in hiring a babysitter. In this scenario, all of the families may pitch in or they may rotate so that they only have to pay once every two months or so. Some put on a movie in another room. Some have even been known to use an iPad on FaceTime as a makeshift monitor!

Many groups, however, simply take the mild chaos of children in stride. Remember: you are fostering community and transparency. It’s okay for the little ones to play among you as you’re sitting and discussing what you heard from the sermon or the passage of Scripture. Children are major parts of our lives, and it is healthy for them to grow up hearing their parents talk about the Word of God with their friends. For more info about childcare, see Appendix A or FAQs.

REPLICATION

Our Point Groups are modeled on the first century community built by the Apostles and early converts. For this reason, one of the main expectations of any Point Group is that it replicates itself after a period of time. Because each group is different, each group’s replication strategy will also look different.

Some groups may be full of people who cannot wait to start their own groups in their own communities. Some may be hesitant to replicate because they grew so closely together, and you are the only one who steps out to begin another group. As the group’s leader, use your best judgment to know how and when your people are ready to multiply.

When it comes to replication, there are a few misconceptions that people tend to have:

- **Misconception 1: Replication is not necessary.** We believe that the strategy of replication is essential if we are to take the Gospel to every corner of the earth. It is the way that the Gospel initially spread across Europe, Asia, and Africa, and is the way that it has continued to spread throughout history. It is ingrained in biblical teaching and in the instructions that Christ left with His disciples. Replication is absolutely necessary!
- **Misconception 2: Someone is going to come and break your group up after a certain amount of time.** Nothing could be further from the truth. We understand that every group moves at a different pace than others around them. While we recognize that most groups are ready to replicate after twelve to eighteen months, some take less time and some take more. This time period is not a deadline or a guideline, it is simply an average. Replication is part of a healthy Point Group’s DNA, but it is not something that you will ever feel forced to do at one time or another.

- **Misconception 3: Everyone in your group has to start their own group.** Not everyone is born or called to be a leader, and not everyone is expected to be. Sometimes, replication looks like this: You have a tight-knit Point Group that does not want to split up, but you have been training one couple who is excited about trying it out on their own. The whole group stays together and sends off the one couple to replicate the experience with people in their neighborhood.
- **Misconception 4: You're doing it alone.** We never want you to feel as though you are alone. The Point Church staff will be keeping up with you and is ready to listen whenever you need advice, help, or encouragement. We believe that the mission of the church is to help people know God, find community, make disciples, and change the world and we will do anything we can do to help our leaders who are out there doing this work.

PRAYER

Finally, prayer should be an intentional, specific time in your group. Praise God for His majesty and pray that your hearts would be united and conformed to the image of Christ. Take time to share struggles and then pray for one another in those struggles. Pray that those in your group can be used to minister in the different situations they are facing—not that the storms in our lives would go away, but that God would be magnified through us as we face them.

LEADING WELL

Point Groups, which are about life change and creating fully-devoted followers of Christ, should be able to be deeply practical. Because a Point Group is made up of people, it is an organic entity. No two will look the same, just as no two people do. But just because the groups won't look the same doesn't mean they don't contain similar elements. Here are some things to make sure you are doing with your group.

LEADING PRACTICALLY

EAT TOGETHER

When the first century Christians met together, Acts 2:46 tells us that “day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts.”

Meals give us natural reasons to congregate—we all need to eat. They also provide a way for each group member to feel as though they are constantly contributing to the whole. It is a good idea to ask people to bring different dishes, ingredients, desserts, or drinks so that no one person is shouldering the burden of providing the entire meal each week. Carving out a time to sit and eat allows us a natural method of slowing down and fellowshiping with each other.

Eating together also gives the added benefit of ensuring you are practicing community in the places where your people actually live. We would be far more likely to spend our free time at our friends' houses than we would in a fluorescent lit classroom in the education wing of a church building. This group is supposed to be living life together—and life happens outside the walls of the church.

PRAY TOGETHER

Prayer is not an activity only for the super-spiritual or for an obligatory before-the-meal ritual. We are to pray without ceasing, and do so with glad hearts! It is important for you to pray for your group and as a group, because prayer is the most effective tool by which the Holy Spirit will mold you into the image of Christ.

When praying, don't use fancy, extravagant language that sounds like it came from a Seminary class; use normal language. For some, praying in a group can be terrifying, so when they hear you lead using prayer language that sounds as if you are talking to a friend, it gives those with worries more confidence than they thought they could have. God doesn't want your fancy words, He wants your sincere heart.

Take time to collect prayer requests from your group. This is a time to really share things that are going on in your lives. It is okay to expose struggles—prayer is the best way to begin when dealing with them. An excellent way to encourage your group to be transparent in the way that you'd like them to be is by modeling the kind of transparency you expect. If you're putting up a front that you have it all together in front of your group, you can bet that they will, too. Exposing struggles and problems is not a sign of weakness, but of strength.

MODEL TRANSPARENCY

If you cannot open up to your group, you cannot expect them to open up with you or with each other. You don't have to fake it. If you don't know the answer to a question, simply say you don't know. Be humble, because humble, transparent leaders gain credibility in their group. One gains nothing from pretending like they have it all together. Nobody does, and a Point Group is the perfect avenue for being genuine. There is a difference between sharing just to say something and truly opening up.

You can set a tone of transparency early on in the life of your group. An excellent question to have the members of your group answer (and for you to model with your answer) is "How did you come to be sitting in this chair?" It allows them to tell a bit of their story, some of where they're coming from, and what connections or realizations brought them to join a Point Group in the first place. Model transparency yourself, and you will see your group members follow.

HOST WELL

When most people see "Host Well," their first thought is usually something along the lines of, "I hope my house is as clean as it should be!" However, spotless cleaning is not what makes a good host home for a Point Group meeting. Here's a question to get at the heart of what makes a space "prepared" for Point Group: Are you spending as much time preparing spiritually as you are cleaning?

It is important to make sure your home is presentable, but if you aren't spending an equal amount of time stressing about praying over your home as you are making sure the coffee table doesn't have dust on it, you may have a priority issue. You can't prayer walk through your home if you are too busy moving the furniture to vacuum underneath it.

You are a spiritual leader to the people in your group, so you must prepare to lead them spiritually. Again, this does not mean that you have it all together; you simply must be intentional in speaking into their lives about the things of God.

BE A FACILITATOR

The best spiritual leaders aren't master teachers, but are great discussion facilitators. If you don't have all of the answers, that's fine; if you aren't okay sitting in uncomfortable silence while your group wrestles through an issue, that may be something to work on. Be more concerned about guiding your group through questions that they can discuss than you are about answering everything that is asked.

We will provide you with material to lead your group in advance, so you have time to think and pray through the kinds of things you can ask pertaining to the passage. Remember: your role is more like a moderator than a lecturer. You want to give your group things to talk about so that they can use each other to arrive and understand the truth of God's Word.

DEAL WITH CONFLICT

Because you are all human beings, there will come a time when conflict will arise. It may be something as small as a clash of personalities or something large like theological disagreement. Whatever the conflict that arises, do not run from it. Don't make a mountain out of a molehill, so to speak, but also don't let something go undealt with. Conflict is actually healthy: working through it will both reveal avenues for personal growth and grow a group together.

At the same time, if you spend your entire time accommodating everyone's individual needs, the group will get nowhere. You are the leader of the group, and so you will sometimes have to draw some lines. It is okay to say, "I'm sorry this doesn't work for you, but it's how our group operates." Err on the side of grace and wisdom, but don't shy away from making a decision if you have to.

When dealing with conflict, remember that the goal is not "winning an argument," but restoration. Matthew 18:15-20 is a step-by-step guide for dealing with conflict and sin with the goal of restoration straight from the pages of Scripture:

"If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

"Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

"Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

BUILDING INTENTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

MEET OUTSIDE OF THE GROUP

The Point Group is to be a community—that means that you should have fun together. When Jesus created community, they lived their whole lives together. They shared in the work and the play. We noticed in the first chapter that the early church “met daily” - they were engaged in the same thing Jesus established.

With our busy schedules, it’s often difficult to find a lot of time outside our regular activities to meet. Meeting outside the group doesn’t have to be fancy gatherings, though. What are some things you’re involved in that others could do with you? What hobbies do some of your members have that others can try, as well? As we grow spiritually, we should grow in relationships, also.

It is healthy to take a week every couple of months that you designate a “fun week.” Going out to dinner with the group and enjoying one another’s company is crucial in your growth together. Remember the three expectations of a Point Group’s schedule: meet weekly, party monthly, and partner monthly.

As the leader, you can also encourage individuals or couples from the group to meet during the week to strengthen individual friendships, as well. For example: if you have mostly couples in the group, you can write each couple’s name on a piece of paper and put them in a hat. Each couple will draw the name of a couple they can spend time with outside of the group that week. You should be growing as friends with the same intentionality as your commitment to grow spiritually.

We are creating biblical community, not only Point Groups. Don’t just ask people about their lives; live life alongside them.

SERVE TOGETHER

An excellent way to intentionally develop a relationship outside the walls of your homes is to serve together. Spot needs in your community or in the church. Volunteer your group to serve one week in the coffee cafe’ or on parking lot duty, clean up the local park, or set up a lemonade stand in your neighborhood! As you work together to enrich the world around you, you will find that your relationships with each other and with the Lord will grow, as well.

CAPTURE MOMENTS

Remember that this is a Point Group—you are people growing closer together and closer with the Lord. Don’t get so caught up in the technicalities of “group” that you miss the life change and spiritual growth going on right under your nose. If someone you wouldn’t expect contributes a particularly good insight, pull them aside as people are leaving and encourage them. A fitly spoken word of encouragement goes a long way.

Your Point Group should be a community bound together and committed to Jesus Christ. This will affect both the relationships within your group and their individual relationships with the Lord.

JESUS' MODEL IN YOUR SETTING

Jesus had a plan. There was a measured intentionality behind what He did with His disciples and how He prepared them to take over His ministry. You can have the same kind of intentionality when it comes to preparing your group to multiply.

YOU LEAD; GROUP PARTICIPATES

At the beginning of your group, you have the opportunity to model exactly what kind of expectations you would ask of those in attendance. You get to set the tone, instill good DNA (even if you don't address it by name), and cultivate a Christ-honoring community with those you've been entrusted with.

YOU LEAD; GROUP ASSISTS

Rotating homes every four to six weeks, sharing responsibility for meals, and dividing up basic tasks are simple ways to allow a group to assist in creating a functioning Point Group. It will give your participants a sense of ownership (which will increase their desire to invest themselves into the group and its members) and ease some of the stress on you, as the leader. Sharing responsibility helps members realize that they could do this, too.

A MEMBER LEADS; YOU ASSIST

Something you can do to ensure multiplication is to share discussion responsibility. Many people raise up a leader apprentice—someone they are pouring into with the intention of having that person be a sure-fire multiplier some time down the road. Contact someone in your group the week before and ask if they'd be willing to lead discussion that week. Then, follow up with coffee or breakfast once you receive the curriculum so that you can talk through anything that they might have questions about.

THE GROUP MULTIPLIES; YOU BEGIN AGAIN

The end of the process is simply the beginning of the next. One generation of Point Groups ends when those you have been pouring into begin pouring into someone else. Preparing your group for multiplication is not foolproof. There will be some who do not feel comfortable starting their own group—that is okay. Remember, Point Groups are organic and messy at times; they are not equations. Use your good judgment and move slowly. Jesus handed His disciples responsibility little bits at a time, and over the course of three years—and even one of His fell off the wagon. You are responsible for doing what you need to do to create biblical community. Your faithfulness is the win, not your success as a multiplier. Be the kind of leader to whom Jesus will say, one day, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

CONTENT

Each group will be supplied with Bible-based content:

- **Sermon-Based Content:** The sermon curriculum follows along with the current sermon series at The Point. You can access this material weekly at <https://tothepoint.church/pointgroups>
- We believe it is a great responsibility to equip people with correct doctrine and beliefs. It is our desire for those leading a Point Group to adhere to and respect the beliefs of The Point Church. For more information on what we believe please go to <https://tothepoint.church/what-we-believe/> on our church website.

CHAPTER THREE

**D-GROUPS:
MAKING DISCIPLES
IN YOUR
POINT GROUP**

WHY DISCIPLESHIP?

MAKING DISCIPLES: A COMMAND TO OBEY

As believers in Christ, we have been commanded to "Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always to the end of the age" (Matt. 28:19-20).

MAKING DISCIPLES: A WORK TO DO

God didn't just save us from something; He saved us for something. Paul wrote that we are His "workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do" (Eph 2:10). When we make disciples, we fulfill the purpose for which we were created and accomplish the good work God has planned for us to do.

MAKING DISCIPLES: A WORLD TO REACH

Malachi 1:11a says, "My name will be great among the nations, from the rising of the sun to its setting." A prerequisite to Jesus' return is that His disciples will share the Gospel with all the peoples of the world (Mark 13:10). We are to make Him known to all nations and this is best accomplished by making disciples who will make disciples (2 Tim. 2:2).

MAKING DISCIPLES: A LIFESTYLE TO MODEL

Jesus prayed for those who would be "with Him" and spent more time developing the twelve than He spent with the crowds (Mark 3:14). Jesus didn't just tell His followers to make disciples; He modeled discipleship for them. If devoting His life to the development of a few was important to Jesus, then it should be important to us! Jesus said, "My Father is glorified by this, that you produce much fruit and prove to be my disciples" (John 15:5). Jesus came so that we might have abundant life (John 10:10). A part of the abundant life is the joy of sharing the love of Jesus with others and helping them to become fully devoted followers of Christ.

WHAT IS A D-GROUP?

D-groups are for believers in a Point Group (including the leader) who meet together regularly, for the purpose of accelerated spiritual transformation.

- **The Time Frame:** Those involved in a D-group should meet regularly for 6-12 months. You can even FaceTime if meeting in person is difficult!
- **The Purpose:** To help Point Group leaders train specific individuals to grow in their faith while also training them to potentially plant another Point Group
- **The Goal:** Make Disciples who will then go on to make more disciples.

HOW DO I CHOOSE DISCIPLES?

As with everything in the discipleship process, we take our cues from Jesus Himself. Before He selected disciples, He spent time in prayer (Luke 6:12-16), so that's where we should begin, also. Remember that the word disciple means "learner," so begin by asking God to send you a group of men or women who have a desire to learn and grow within your Point Group.

When people approached Jesus about becoming His disciple, our Lord held a high standard. One man said, "I'll follow you, but let me go bury my father." The man's father hadn't died, of course; he was simply reaching for an excuse to postpone the kind of commitment that Jesus expected of him. Jesus responded with something the man would have understood to mean, "You can't do that. The Kingdom is too important."

Look for people who are: Faithful, Available, Intentional, Teachable, Hungry

HOW TO START A D-GROUP:

- Pray about whom God would have you ask.
- Approach those individuals and invite them.
- Covenant with them to be committed and accountable to each other.
- Invest your life into the participants for the next 6-12 months.

WHAT DOES A D-GROUP MEETING LOOK LIKE?

Begin with prayer. Ask each participant to present one prayer request at the start of each meeting. Assign a person to pray over the requests, and ask the Lord to sharpen each of you through your relationship.

Here are some elements that your weekly meetings can include:

- Open with prayer.
- Have a time of intentional conversation by sharing the highs and lows of the week. You can also share celebrations and praises.
- Quote your Scripture memory verses for the week.
- Study the Word of God together. A great way to do this is to share H.E.A.R. journals from the week. The goal of studying the Bible is to apply the Word of God. Remember, knowledge without application is useless information.
- **Good application questions to utilize in group discussion:**
 - What are you hearing from God, and what are you doing about it?
 - What is God teaching you, and how is it affecting your life?
- **Good application questions for examining a text:**
 - What does this passage teach about God?
 - What does this passage teach about fallen humanity that requires the grace of God?
 - How does this text point to Christ?
 - Is there a promise to claim?
 - Is there an action or attitude to avoid or embrace?
 - Is there a principle to apply?
- Spend a few moments asking questions and keeping each other accountable. You can't expect what you don't inspect. Remember, all accountability should be saturated with grace, not legalism.
- Share prayer requests and close with prayer.

SAMPLE H.E.A.R. JOURNAL ENTRY

READ: Philippians 4:10–13 TITLE: Secret of Contentment

H (Highlight)

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" Philippians 4:13

E (Explain)

Paul was telling the church at Philippi that he has discovered the secret of contentment. No matter the situation in Paul's life, he realized that Christ was all he needed, and Christ was the one who strengthened him to persevere through difficult times.

A (Apply)

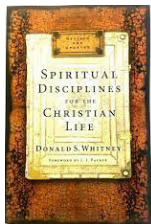
In my life, I will experience many ups and downs. My contentment is not found in circumstances. Rather, it is based on my relationship with Jesus Christ. Only Jesus gives me the strength I need to be content in every circumstance of life.

R (Respond)

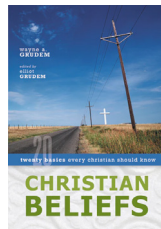
Lord Jesus, please help me as I strive to be content in You. Through Your strength, I can make it through any situation I must face.

RESOURCES

The following are resources you may find helpful for your D-Group:



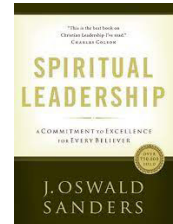
SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES
FOR THE CHRISTIAN LIFE
Donald S. Whitney



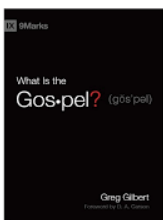
CHRISTIAN BELIEFS
Wayne Grudem



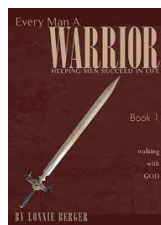
FOUNDATIONS F260
READING PLAN
Kandi and Robby Gallaty



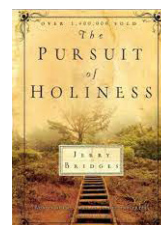
SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP
J. Oswald Sanders



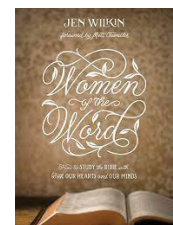
WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?
Greg Gilbert



EVERY MAN A WARRIOR
Lonnie Berger



PURSUIT OF HOLINESS
Jerry Bridges



WOMEN OF THE WORD
Jen Wilkin

CHAPTER FOUR

**SERVING THE
COMMUNITY -
CHANGING
THE WORLD**

OUTREACH

SERVING THE COMMUNITY-CHANGING THE WORLD

If Point Church no longer existed, would our community miss us? We want the answer to this question to be a resounding yes! Our world is full of needs. There are countless opportunities and ways for us to reach out to those around us; we simply have to open our eyes. We have to train ourselves to see the world through a new perspective, "What can we do to serve those around us?" We desire for every Point Group to "Partner Monthly - Serve Frequently." The needs vary in each community we live in, but the needs are also never ending! Below are some organizations that may need your help, but we have also listed some ideas that you can try in your neighborhood! No matter how your Point Group decides to serve the local community, know this, Point Groups serve. It's what we do. Let us know how your Point Group decides to serve at groups@tothepoint.church! Send us pictures too!

SAFE HARBOR PREGNANCY MEDICAL CENTER

Safe harbor Pregnancy Center provides abortion information in Escambia County in Northwest Florida. They provide free and confidential services to women and families discovering a new pregnancy.

Email: info@safeharborpmc.org

Phone: 850-439-2511

Address: 2280 N. 9th Avenue, Pensacola, FL 32503

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES - NORTHWEST FLORIDA

The love and support our volunteers offer gives the families calling RMHC home comfort during one of the most difficult times of their lives. As a volunteer, you have the chance to make a difference in the lives of the children and families served by the RMHC through cooking, greeting, listening, cleaning, or simply being there and helping out in any way you can.

Email: krystal@rmhc-nwfl.org

Address: 5200 Bayou Boulevard, Pensacola, FL 32503

Phone: 850-477-2273

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

The Perdido Key area is an up and coming community with new people moving in everyday. This is a tremendous opportunity for groups to be able to represent The Point Church. Get creative! The goal is having a presence in the community that we call home! Clean up the local park (it needs it!), set up a lemonade stand in your neighborhood to give out Point Church material, or hand out water bottles at the beach on a hot day. You know the needs of the community better than anyone. Let us know what you decide to do by emailing groups@tothepoint.church, and do not forget to send us pictures!

APPENDIX A

**FREQUENTLY
ASKED
QUESTIONS**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW MUCH TIME SHOULD I SPEND STUDYING THE CURRICULUM?

For some people it takes over an hour, but for some it takes half an hour. If you worry more about studying the content than the people in your Point Group, priorities may need to be adjusted. You can go as deep as you would like, but make sure your study and presentation is not shallow. But there needs to be a good balance! You will find your routine in no time!

HOW ARE PEOPLE ASSIMILATED INTO POINT GROUPS?

People are added to groups in two ways: through sign-ups and personal invites. Sign ups are primarily added to new groups to maintain intimacy within existing groups. Point Groups are open to personal invites at all times. Often, it is an invite into a group that opens the door for God to begin transforming a person's life. We encourage all people to attend Starting Point before joining a Point Group, but it is not necessary. This class will prepare them to be an active and contributing Point Group member. Please encourage all personal invitees to attend as well.

HOW MANY PEOPLE SHOULD BE IN A GROUP?

We typically aim to have 8-12 members within each group. When your group grows to 12 or more, it is a good idea to think about sending a few people out to start another group. Planting other groups is a great thing. It enables us to reach more people and this should be a goal for your group.

HOW DO I HANDLE CHILDCARE FOR MY GROUP?

When it comes to childcare, different options work better for different groups depending on the number of kids, home location, and space availability. Here are the three helpful options:

- **Individual Childcare:** This way works best when there are a large number of children. Each person finds their own childcare at their own location.
- **Group Childcare:** This way works well when applicable. Childcare is provided at the same location as the group. All members bring their children and work together to divide the cost.
- **Shared Childcare:** Our personal favorite! We believe children need to see us being intentional about making disciples. While the women are meeting, the men are watching the children – then you switch! You can still have an effective, and in many ways more effective, group meeting when you rotate. Childcare workers are not needed, and you are still equipping one another to make disciples. The children are being equipped too by watching mom and dad!

HOW TO HANDLE PEOPLE MISSING GROUP?

Consistency in groups is a common issue. Don't let it frustrate you. It is not a reflection of you as a leader. We live in a culture of busyness and misconstrued priorities. However, it is true that people make time for what they care about. As a group leader, it is important to make this point clear and communicate the importance of making group a priority if they are serious about growth. Here are three ways to help address this issue:

- Consistently talk about the importance of commitment at Point Group.
- Intentionally follow up with absent members and let them know that they were missed.
- Invite the person to lunch to encourage them about coming to group

HOW DO I HANDLE THE DIFFICULT PEOPLE IN MY GROUP?

People are messy. Different personalities and difficult people are inevitably going to come up in your group. If tendencies become consistent and are hindering the group, it is best to pull the people aside. Make sure they understand your love for them, the group, and be honest. Here are a few common examples and how to deal with them:

- **People who talk too much:**
 - Try calling on specific people to answer other than this person.
 - Pull the dominator aside outside of group and ask them to help you get others talking within the group.
- **People who never talk:**
 - Take this person to lunch and get to know them a little better. Many times this will help them open up and talk more.
 - Ask for this person's thoughts on questions when you ask them.
- **People who aren't giving Biblical advice:**
 - Meet with the person outside of group and talk with them about the importance of pointing people to Scripture.
 - Pull the person receiving the bad advice aside after group, talk with them about their situation, and point them to Scripture.

WHAT DO I DO IF I ENCOUNTER A SITUATION OR PROBLEM THAT I CAN'T HANDLE?

Emergencies happen. Tough situations happen. Each situation is different. Sometimes they can be overwhelming and difficult to handle. As a group leader, your role is to love them and help them in anyway you can. You are not trained to be a professional counselor. Do not assume that role. Any time an emergency situation arises, (death, divorce, car accident, adultery, childbirth, etc.) contact someone from the discipleship team for help on how to handle the situation.

HOW LONG SHOULD A POINT GROUP MEET?

It depends on the group, but each group should have the "open-group" mentality and the expectation to plant other groups. Preferably, each group should send out at least 2-4 people each year to plant another group.

HOW DO I HANDLE PRAYER REQUESTS?

Prayer is vital to being part of a Point Group. However, we know that prayer request time can get off track and take most of your meeting time up. Keep the prayer request conversation to a few minutes. You can send out a "prayer text" or "prayer email" to the Point Group. That way no prayer request falls through the cracks and you can have an effective Point Group meeting.

DOES THE CONTENT COST ANYTHING?

No. The sermon-based curriculum is entirely free; those will be posted through those will be posted to the church website each week. However, participants in the D-Group will be responsible for books purchased if desired (see page 36).

HOW DO WE START ANOTHER GROUP?

It's not as difficult as you might think. Simply email groups@tothepoint.church those being commissioned from your group and we will work out the details from there. Don't forget to have a "send-off" party! Starting new groups is a win!

DO I NEED TO BE A MEMBER OF THE POINT CHURCH TO LEAD A POINT GROUP?

Yes! Belonging to a local church through membership communicates to others your dedication and desire to see others belong to the body of believers in the local church and throughout the world.

APPENDIX B

**POINT GROUP
VS D-GROUP
COMPARISON**

SNAPSHOT OF A GROUP

Differences Between a Point Group and D-Group

	POINT GROUP	D-GROUP
MODEL	OPEN GROUP	CLOSED GROUP
MAKE-UP	COMPOSED OF BELIEVERS + NON-BELIEVERS	DISCIPLE-MAKING GROUP CREATED FROM WITHIN YOUR POINT GROUP
SIZE	SIZE VARIES BUT USUALLY 8-12 PEOPLE	4-6 PEOPLE/USUALLY NO LIMIT. DEPENDS ON GOAL OF THE GROUP
DYNAMIC	CO-ED OR GENDER-SPECIFIC	GENDER-SPECIFIC
PURPOSE	A COMMUNITY WHERE PEOPLE ENCOUNTER JESUS AND HIS WORD TO BECOME DISCIPLE-MAKERS AND GROUP MULTIPLIERS	A COMMUNITY BEING EQUIPPED WITH A SPECIFIC SKILL TO GROW IN OBEDIENCE AND LOVE FOR THE LORD AND HIS WORD
TIME FRAME	A COMMUNITY THAT EXISTS FOR A PERIOD OF TIME AND THEN LAUNCHES NEW GROUPS	A COMMUNITY THAT EXISTS FOR THE DESIGNATED START AND END DATE
EXPECTATION OF MEMBERS	FLEXIBLE EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS, LARGELY DEPENDENT ON THE POINT GROUP AS A WHOLE	HIGH EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS
LEADERSHIP	ONE OR TWO LEADERS NURTURE SPIRITUAL GROWTH WITHIN THE GROUP AND DEVELOP FUTURE LEADERS	ONE LEADER WHO CULTIVATES INTIMATE ACCOUNTABLE RELATIONSHIPS FOR A DESIGNATED AMOUNT OF TIME
OUTCOME	DESIGNED TO GROW AND MULTIPLY BIBLICAL COMMUNITY	DESIGNED TO GROW AND EQUIP THROUGH BIBLICAL COMMUNITY

THE POINT CHURCH

CONNECT
through weekly
corporate
worship + teaching

GROW
by participating in
weekly Point Group
meetings

SERVE
through missions,
evangelism, +
volunteering

LOVE
people to the
point of life:
Jesus Christ



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LONG HOLLOW | HEARTLAND CHURCH | THE POINT CHURCH