
THE PURPOSE OF GROWTH GROUPS

Growth Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful Christian relationships and the study of God's Word. Here's how it will happen.

SHARE

Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include planned "sharing questions." But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal, as we feel more comfortable.

STUDY

Each week we'll study a section from God's Word that relates to the previous Sunday's sermon or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our faith in Jesus in everyday life.

SUPPORT

Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Jesus commanded (John 15:9-13). This care can take many forms such as *prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another, and meeting real needs.*

SERVE

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to our community (Ephesians 4:11-16). Throughout the quarter, it is our hope that you can find and/or be affirmed in the ways God has designed you to serve, and make a difference in God's Kingdom.

CHARTER SUNDAY

1 Samuel 7:12

Pastor John Fanous
Edgewater Covenant Church
September 18, 2011

CHARTER SUNDAY

Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far has the Lord helped us."

1 Samuel 7:12

"Thus far has the Lord helped us..."

A prayer of blessing for our church...

Growth Group Homework

For the Week of September 18, 2011

Welcome to the Fall quarter of Growth Groups!

This week we kick off our Fall Growth Group quarter. Your first meeting will include a potluck dinner, time to get acquainted, as well as a review of your Growth Group Covenant. The homework has been shortened to allow enough time to accomplish each of these.

To prepare, take some time to focus on the questions below and be prepared to share your answers with the group. Have a great first meeting!

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. If you had to compete in one of the following events (and fitness was not an issue), which one would it be and why?
 - World Cup Final
 - Tour de France
 - Super Bowl
 - Wimbledon
 - World Series
 - Drag Race Nationals
 - Masters
 - Daytona 500 (NASCAR)
 - Coney Island 4th of July Hot Dog Eating Contest
 - Final Four
 - Olympics
2. Of all the cars you've owned or had use of, which one was your favorite and why?
3. What did you appreciate most from our Charter Sunday celebration?

DIGGER DEEPER

In the Bible, when a person or a group of people encountered God in a profound way, they stopped and made some type of memorial to thank God and remember. Looking at the two passages below, what kinds of situations prompted people to create a memorial to God?

Genesis 28:10-19

Joshua 4:1-7

In our church life, what situations today do you think it would be appropriate to build or make something to thank God and remember?

What kinds of situations in our own lives?

TAKING IT HOME

Before going over the Growth Group Covenant, write down some of the reasons you joined a Growth Group this quarter. What are you looking forward to the most?