

New Song Small Group GUIDELINES

New Song's Vision: New Song Church exists to Help People Know God.

Mission Statement of New Song Small Groups: New Song Small Groups exist to Follow Christ Together in Kingdom Community.

Key Verse of New Song Small Groups: Philippians 1:27 "Above all, you must live as citizens of heaven, conducting yourselves in a manner worthy of the Good News about Christ.

1. Be committed to the study of God's word through the chosen curriculum – this is our opportunity to dig deeper together.

2. Be excited and expectant about what God will do through you in and through this group.

3. Encourage each other to grow in relationship with Jesus and to align our beliefs and actions with the Bible's truths.

4. Pray for one another. Prayer is our most powerful weapon. Continue to pray for each other throughout the week. Prayer helps build the bond of real Kingdom friendships.

5. Welcome newcomers. By being inviting both at group and seeking out others in the church who are not yet plugged into a group.

6. Refrain from gossip. Unless the topic is glorifying to God and praiseworthy, do not speak of a mutual acquaintance or friend who is not present.

7. Be sensitive to the Spirit. Be quick to pray and slow to speak – We are here to support one another, not fix each other. Advice is welcomed but take care not to overwhelm the person. Consider if the person is seeking advice or just needs a listening ear.

8. Avoid conflict: it is okay to disagree. It is not okay to argue within the group. If you and another member do not

agree on a topic, move on. Conflict-prone topics such as politics should be avoided in groups.

9. Assure confidentiality: what is said in the group stays in the group – protect this environment fiercely. The only exception is when someone threatens to hurt themselves or someone else.

10. Abstain from alcohol and other addictive substances in group. Do not consume, offer, nor discuss them during group time. You never know what a brother or sister is struggling with. The exception would be if someone is discussing his or her recovery or struggle – this type of healing discussion is permissible and encouraged.

If you feel there is a need, issue or concern that should be addressed, first talk with your Small Group Host, or email groups@newsongpeople.com – this is a confidential resource that will connect you directly with New Song's Small Groups Leadership Team.