

# SECTION 1

## FOUNDATIONS

**A Doxa Small Group is** \_\_\_\_\_

Discipleship is the \_\_\_\_\_ of a Christian growing in the knowledge of God, love for God, and obedience to God as they follow Jesus

### **Knowledge of God**

#1 Disciples grow in knowing God personally

2 Peter 3:18    Philippians 3:8

#2 Disciples grow in knowing God's Word accurately

#3 Disciples grow in knowing the gospel deeply

### **Love for God**

#1 Disciples love God through worshipful prayer

Psalms 63:1-4

#2 Disciples love God by living for his glory

Colossians 3:17

#3 Disciples love God by loving his people

John 13:34-35

## **Obedience to God**

#1 Disciples learn obedience from the Word, instructed by other disciples

Matthew 28:16-20

#2 Disciples seek God's presence and help to obey him

Philippians 2:12-13

#3 Disciples obey God not only in actions but also speech and attitude

Ephesians 4:25-32

**Community is the \_\_\_\_\_ of a group of people committed to Learning, Practicing, and Changing together in the name of Jesus**

3 key commitments to seeing community develop:

#1 Learn together

2 Peter 3:18

#2 Practice together

5 primary one anothers small groups seek to walk in:

1. Love one another (John 13:34-35)
2. Welcome one another (Romans 15:5-7)
3. Speak the truth in love to one another (Ephesians 4:15)
4. Serve one another (Galatians 5:13)
5. Pray for one another (Ephesians 6:18-20)

#3 Change together

## SECTION 2

### CORE VALUES

As a Doxa Small Group Leader, it is vital that you understand the “why behind the what” of our ministry. In order to see this, we have developed 6 Core Values that are the anchors of what we do and why we do it. Each Core Value comes from a theological foundation, which produces a philosophy of ministry, which results in a methodology experienced by the group.

#### **CORE VALUE #1: THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF GOD**

2 Timothy 3:16-17 | Hebrews 4:12

Theology: Inspiration and sufficiency of Scripture

Philosophy of Ministry: Faithful study of the Word

Methodology: Large Group discussions focused on understanding and application

#### **CORE VALUE #2: \_\_\_\_\_**

1 Peter 5:6-7 | Proverbs 3:5-6

Theology: Dependence on God

Philosophy of Ministry: Develop a culture of prayer

Methodology: Pray together and for one another

**CORE VALUE #3: \_\_\_\_\_ IN CHRIST**

2 Peter 1:3-4

Theology: Ongoing sanctification

Philosophy of Ministry: Everyone pursuing Christ-likeness

Methodology: Breakout times for depth of relationship, sharing from the heart, and loving accountability

**CORE VALUE #4: \_\_\_\_\_ MINISTRY**

Ephesians 4:11-13

Theology: All Christians are in ministry

Philosophy of Ministry: Shared Responsibility

Methodology: Everyone plays a role in the effectiveness, depth, and life of the group

**CORE VALUE #5: \_\_\_\_\_**

Romans 12:4-5

Theology: Church as the Body of Christ

Philosophy of Ministry: Small Groups as a place to belong

Methodology: Commitment to open groups and developing relationships

**CORE VALUE #6: \_\_\_\_\_ GROUPS**

Colossians 1:28-29

Theology: Growing to maturity

Philosophy of ministry: Grow to lead

Methodology: Anyone can grow into a Small Group Leader at Doxa

# SECTION 3

## WHAT DOES A DOXA SMALL GROUP LEADER LOOK LIKE?

**Doxa Small Group Leaders are not \_\_\_\_\_ leaders. Rather, they are \_\_\_\_\_ workers in the ministry.**

### **Non-negotiable character for Small Group Leaders**

1. Love God
2. Love people
3. Love the church and be a member of Doxa
4. Be committed to the mission and vision of Small Groups
5. Be capable to lead consistently
6. Be humble
7. Be teachable
8. Be growing in your own walk with Christ

### **Non-negotiable commitments for Small Group Leaders**

1. Do not tolerate slander or gossip
2. Pursue people out of love for them
3. Seek reconciliation when there is an offense within the group
4. Be invitational and open to new folks joining

## 4 Types of Doxa Small Group Leaders

### ----- Leader

Common strengths: Loves being around others | Goes out of their way to include the whole group | Seeing people develop relationships with each other makes this person come alive | Good conversationalist

Common weaknesses: May sacrifice time in the Word for “connecting” | May listen to rabbit trails too long, distracting the group | May not correct or contradict someone in thinking or beliefs even when it is needed

### ----- Leader

Common strengths: Knowledgeable about the Word | Desires to help others know the Word and apply it | Makes sure people are thinking biblically and asks questions like “Where does it say that in the Bible?”

Common weaknesses: May lose sight of relationships or ministry moments in the name of “studying the Bible” | May forget to promote flexibility of time spent doing fun or relational activities | May cut someone off in a moment of needed personal sharing

### ----- Leader

Common strengths: Sees their home as a place of ministry | Desires to go deep with anyone anytime | Lives transparently before others | Thinks about atmosphere | Good at reading the room to discern how others are doing.

Common weaknesses: May focus on people feeling comfortable even if uncomfortable is needed for their own growth | May resist structure during meetings in order to “just spend time together” as if that’s the essence of a group’s meeting | May prefer not to study or prepare for group, believing the right atmosphere is all that’s needed

### ----- Leader

Common strengths: A deep thinker who desires to know the Word accurately | Can develop strong relationships with a few people really well | Can help other introverts be comfortable, showing leaders don’t have to be loud and boisterous

Common weaknesses: May forget new people are a blessing and not a liability to the group | May see change as an assault on the group’s integrity, instead of necessary for growth | Less likely to chase after inconsistent people or do the “we miss you” work when people are gone

## **Small Group Leader Support**

Relationship: Small Group Coaches are provided to every SG Leader for encouragement, support and wisdom, and praying for you as a leader.

Ongoing Training: Small Group Leader Meet Ups are quarterly opportunities to connect with other leaders in the ministry, receive ongoing training, ask questions, and help others grow in their leadership.

# SECTION 4

## WHAT DOES A DOXA SMALL GROUP LOOK LIKE?

There are 3 core components to most Small Group Meetings:

1. Large Group discussion
2. Prayer
3. Men's and Women's Breakout

**Large group discussion is for the entire group to participate in the study and discussion of God's Word, aimed at knowing the Word \_\_\_\_\_ and applying it \_\_\_\_\_.**

What do Small Groups Study?

- The vast majority of the time, Small Groups go over questions related to Sunday's passage and sermon. This reinforces the common message heard on Sunday, helps increase understanding of the Bible, and is the most natural conversation starter for groups.
- Additionally, Small Group Leaders are able to select from a wide variety of pre-approved ministry leaders, pastors and authors for studies related to books of the Bible or topics that your group wants to study. You can find this Pre-Approved Teacher List at [doxachurch.net/small-group-leader-resources](http://doxachurch.net/small-group-leader-resources)



## How do I make prayer a significant part of my Small Group?

This question has 3 answers:

- First, make sure to \_\_\_\_\_ group prayer, not just do it when convenient
- Dedicate a specific \_\_\_\_\_ to prayer, rather than just see where it fits
- Give it \_\_\_\_\_ ahead of time, like you would other parts of the Small Group night

You can find more information and examples of 30-45 minute group prayer templates to use online on the Small Group Leader Resources page here:

[doxachurch.net/small-group-leader-resources](http://doxachurch.net/small-group-leader-resources)

## What is breakout time for?

1. Depth of relationship
2. Sharing from the heart
3. Loving accountability

Two more valuable components to successful small groups that are important to note:

1. Share meals together regularly
2. Worship together. You can find chord charts as well as a lyrics PDF for over 30 songs online on the Small Group Leader Resources page and you can also find the lyrics on our Doxa Church App under Soul Care on the home screen.

## **Shared Responsibility**

1. Everyone sees themselves as owners in the group
2. Every part of the Small Group is open to anyone to lead or serve
3. Each person seeks to serve the group, formally or informally, with the gifts God has given them

Shared responsibility is most effective when you utilize the role of Facilitators. These are people who help lead various aspects of the Small Group.

### **Examples of Facilitators could include:**

Large Group Facilitator  
Prayer Facilitator  
Worship Facilitator  
Breakout Facilitator  
Food Facilitator  
Follow-Up Facilitator  
Events and Outreach Facilitator

You can find single page job descriptions (to easily share with someone interested in the role) of each of these Facilitator roles online on the Small Group Leader Resources page.