



# COMMUNITY GROUPS

Vision: Celebration + Creation

## COMMUNITY GROUP VISION + VALUES

We exist to worship God together and see His worship spread over the whole earth. We long to see Community Groups saturate every neighborhood and apartment community, seeing the grace of God transform our church, Silver Spring, county, country and world, bringing salvation and foretastes of His coming Kingdom.

Our **Community Groups** are **Families on Mission**, transformed by the gospel to follow Jesus together for the good of the world.

**Value #1: Christ Centered**. Galatians 2.20 + Mt 4.19-20 We are explicitly Christ-centered, worshiping God by orienting our entire lives around Him. Our Triune God has revealed Himself to us in His Son Jesus Christ. The gospel has changed every bit of our lives and we live for Him. The gospel both saves and sanctifies us. Christ is our Savior, example, and provision for a relationship with God and our lives of obedience to Him in His world. The Christ Centered scriptures reveal our God and shape our relationship with Him through the empowerment of the Spirit. The gospel shapes everything we do and all that we are about. Practice: This primarily happens in the CG Family Meal where the whole CG gathers monthly sharing about how Jesus is at work in each member's life and how He is working in the lives of people around us. We then pray and plan to see Christ exalted in the life and work of the group.

**Value #2: Community/Family of Disciples**. Acts 2.42-47 + 2 Tim 3.16-17 + John 1.12 We live our lives together as disciples of Christ in a diverse, unified, community of believers. We go deep in discipleship with one another by seeking Him in the scriptures and in prayer. We share our lives transparently together, that the real "me" would be known, loved, and embraced in real time. We give to each other sacrificially and generously. Practice: This primarily happens in our CG's 3D times as we share our lives transparently, read the scriptures together and pray for one another.

**Value #3: On Mission.** We are sent by God to see Him redeem people and bring about the restoration of His world. God has rescued us by grace through faith in the life, death and resurrection of Christ. We want the world to know and embrace Him. Mission catalyzes our decision-making and spending. We want to demonstrate the gospel by caring for the “least of these.” We want to integrate all of our lives, knitting together our “church friends” with neighbors, coworkers and friends who don’t yet know Christ. We want to declare the gospel by explicitly sharing with “the lost.” We pray and live in a way that God might multiply His kingdom through us at every level: individual disciples, CG’s, and churches. Practice: This primarily happens in the CG Scattered Times when we build relationships and share the gospel by celebrating and serving with and amongst the lost.

## MEAL REFLECTING- STRENGTHS/WEAKNESSES

Enjoy time at the table eating a meal together. Over the meal, share the following:

1. Review the **vision and values** of CG’s. Anything jump out as exciting, daunting, new, question, a major strength, a major weakness?
2. What are some of the **strengths** of our group?
  - What has God done in our relationships internal to the group?
  - What has God done through our group, personally and externally?
  - What challenges have we navigated and grown in together?
3. What are some **weaknesses** of our group?
  - Is there a value/rhythm that is lacking in your group? Why?
  - Is there an area you’d like to engage in strengthening your group?
  - What is something you would love to see in the group?

## PRAYER + PLANNING- VISION

1. **Pray:** Spend time praying (10-15min). Pray in praise for how God has been meeting you in your group, and working through your group. Pray for His guidance and grace to move forward together in strengthening your group as you deepen in love for Him, each other, and reach the lost together.

2. **Plan:** Spend time doing some initial planning (15-30min).

This coming season, to increase our relational connection with each other, and be reminded of the centrality of Christ in our relationships and mission together we will (think "Family Meal")...

This coming season, to increase our depth of transparency, formation in His word, and prayer for one another we will (think "3D")...

This coming season, to integrate our friendships with neighbors/coworkers/friends with our CG friendships we will (think "scatter" - celebration + service)...

Who is willing to help with any of the above, to share leadership and load?

3. Put **dates** on the calendar for at least the coming two months. If possible, do so for the coming season (spring, fall, winter, summer) if possible.

4. **Pray:** Pray for these plans. Pray for each other. Pray for lost friends by name.