

Bridges of Hope Fellowship Life Group Covenant

This covenant is reviewed and signed at the beginning of each quarter by all groups. Groups that are continuing will still review the covenant during the first meeting of each quarter.

Session Dates _____ to _____.

Leader(s) _____ Phone # _____.

Host(s) _____ Phone # _____.

This covenant will help us discuss and clarify our goals, expectations, and commitments as a group. Since healthy groups thrive on trust and participation, a clear covenant is an important starting point toward a successful group experience.

Life Groups: Our Basic Purpose

Life Groups exist to promote the development of real and authentic Christian relationships centered around the study of God's Word (see Hebrews 10:24-25; Romans 8:29).

- **Sharing**

Each week, we will take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first, this sharing will include some planned "sharing questions." After the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as our group feels safer and more comfortable.

- **Study**

Each week we'll study a portion of God's Word that relates to the weekend sermon. Our goal is to learn how to apply and live out our Christianity in our day-to-day experiences and relationships.

- **Support**

Each week, we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (see John 15:9-13). This care will take many forms, such as praying, listening, meeting needs, and encouraging and even challenging one another as needed.

Five Marks of a Healthy Group

For our group to be healthy, we need to

1. focus on spiritual growth as a top priority (Romans 8:29);
2. accept one another in love just as Christ has accepted us (Romans 15:7);
3. take care of one another in love without crossing over the line into parenting or taking inappropriate responsibility for solving the problems of others (John 13:34);
4. treat one another with respect in both speech and action (Ephesians 4:25-5:2);
5. keep our commitments to the group – including attending regularly, participating in discussions, and keeping confidences whenever requested (Psalm 15:1-2, 4b).

Guidelines and Covenant

1. **Dates**

We'll meet on _____ nights for _____ weeks.

Our final meeting of the quarter will be on _____

2. Time

We'll arrive between _____ and _____ and begin the meeting at _____. We'll spend approximately _____ minutes in sharing, _____ minutes in study/discussion, and _____ minutes in prayer.

3. Children

Group members are responsible to arrange childcare for their children. Nursing newborns are welcome, provided they are not a distraction to the group.

4. Study

Each week, we'll study the same topic(s) covered in the weekend sermon.

5. Prayer

Our group will be praying each week for one another and specific missions requests.

6. Attendance

Joining a Life Group requires a commitment to attend each week. Obviously, allowances are made for sickness, vacation, work conflicts, and other special events – but not much more! *This commitment is the key to a healthy group.*

If we cannot come to a meeting we will _____
_____.

7. Refreshments

8. Social(s)

9. Service Project(s)

We agree together in Christ to honor this covenant.

(To be decided on and signed by each group member on or before the third week.)

1. _____

8. _____

2. _____

9. _____

3. _____

10. _____

4. _____

11. _____

5. _____

12. _____

6. _____

13. _____

7. _____

14. _____