

Weekly structure for small groups

The vision for our church is to Gather, Grow and **Go!** This document has been developed to help small group leaders structure their weekly meetings. It can also be useful to help encourage other members in your group to practice leading.

<p>WELCOME</p> <p><i>Getting to know each other better and creating a culture of welcome</i></p>	<p>Hospitality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serve refreshments (make sure you know preferences/allergies) • Help people feel comfortable within the home environment • Punctuality and good time keeping <p>Check in with how everyone is doing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could be an ice breaker • Going around asking about your week during the welcome/food time • Make sure everyone is included and has a chance to speak/contribute <p>Accountability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow on from the 'action points' from the week before • Aim is to encourage not 'check-up!' <p>Welcoming the holy spirit through prayer</p> <p>Social gatherings to invite friends/neighbours/spouse etc</p> <p>Link to some ideas for structured welcome activities: https://celluk.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Cell-ideas-Welcome.pdf</p>
<p>WORSHIP</p> <p><i>Ensuring our focus is on God</i></p>	<p>This can be varied each week and may look different depending on group preference</p> <p>You may want to get different people to lead this section each week</p> <p>Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening prayer • YouTube videos • Creative worship • Reading Psalms • Lectio divina (eg Lectio 365 app) • DIY music • Meditation using objects/meditation scripts • Interpretive dance! 😊 • Be creative and have fun worshipping our God • https://celluk.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Cell-ideas-Worship.pdf <p>Prayer ministry time for individual and group needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This may flow on well after worship and welcome to pray into specific areas in peoples lives before moving on to the Word • Ask the Holy Spirit for words, pictures, scriptures etc

<p>WORD</p> <p><i>Encountering God through scripture and being changed through it!</i></p>	<p>Read through the scripture (2 or 3 times - different voices/versions)</p> <p>Ask one of the group to retell the passage in their own words to the group. (While seemingly unnecessary, this helps the group internalise the story for themselves).</p> <p>Take time going through the following questions. Don't rush, spend time dwelling on each aspect</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What does this story tell me about God 2. What does it tell me about people 3. If this is God's word for my life, how will I obey it? (looking for a 'I will statement....') 4. How can I share something of this passage with others? (review this the following week to ask how it went) <p>Ideas to stay focused if needed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you have a random question/answer, try to contextualise it in the text • If people start cross referencing to other passages in the bible, bring them back to 'let's keep focusing on this passage now'
<p>WITNESS</p> <p>Equipping us to reach our community</p>	<p>Focused prayer on how we are going to reach others this week (flows on from question 4 above)</p> <p>Think about individual witness but also group actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects around Dorking • Think about getting involved in non-church activities in Dorking (individually and as a group) • Prayer for opportunities within the week and courage • Prayer to equip those already serving the community (work/volunteering/friendship etc) <p>You may want to practice sharing testimonies with each other, helping you to be more confident when witnessing to non-believers</p>