

HOST ORIENTATION



Participant Manual

ChurchoftheKing.com/HopeAgain

HOPE AGAIN

WHY SMALL GROUPS?

Your life can have a big impact when you invite people into a welcoming atmosphere where the Spirit of God is present.

Small Groups are a biblical model and an effective way to fulfill our purpose of Reaching People and Building Lives.

Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles... And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2:41-43, 47 NIV

SMALL GROUP HOSTS HELP PEOPLE...

1. Connect with God.

The first step towards helping people connect with God is leading them into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ. We are called to reach people.

Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?

Luke 15:4 NIV

Four Keys to Connecting With God:

1. Bible Engagement

The **Daily Readings** section in the *Hope Again* book will help people in your small group connect with God as they spend a few minutes each day reading about Him while they learn to listen to Him speak.

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12 NKJV

2. Prayer

The **Daily Readings** and **Journal Pages** encourages small group participants to take some time to write out their prayer to God based on the daily Bible reading. Each small group member is also encouraged to pray daily for the other group members.

Go to pray.churchoftheking.com for a detailed guide teaching to pray through the Lord's prayer.

3. Godly Relationships

God designed us to grow closer to Him when we are in relationships that provide encouragement and accountability.

4. Serving

Serving changes the lives of people who are served and the lives of those who serve. Go to churchoftheking.com/dreamteam to discover ways to serve.

SMALL GROUP HOSTS HELP PEOPLE...

2. **Grow** in community.

Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

Hebrews 10:24-25 NLT

Small groups are a great place to grow in community.

Life change happens best in circles and not in rows.

Four Keys to Growing in Community:

1. **Engage** in open discussion.

We provide several discussion questions for each week. These questions are designed to help facilitate engaging discussions amongst group members.

2. **Pray** with and for each other.

The back of each *Hope Again* book has a section to record prayer requests of group members. This will help group members pray for each other throughout the week.

3. **Serve** together.

Go to ChurchoftheKing.com/dreamteam to discover how to serve together as a small group.

4. **Have fun** together.

Host a fun social with your small group before, during, and/or after the series.

SMALL GROUP HOSTS HELP PEOPLE...

3. **Discover** their purpose.

We are each uniquely designed by God to fulfill a purpose and mission here on earth. When you help others discover their purpose, their faith comes alive. Understanding their true purpose will change their lives!

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10 NIV

God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

1 Peter 4:10 NLT

We Reach People & Build Lives

Our purpose is found within our mission of Reaching People and Building Lives.

...GO into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.

Mark 16:15 NIV

Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

Matthew 28:19-20 NLT

SMALL GROUP HOSTS HELP PEOPLE...

4. **Go** make a difference.

You can help others change the course of people's lives as they share their faith and reach people with the message of the Gospel!

Two Keys to Helping Others Make a Difference:

1. Encourage them to share their story.

Sharing our story with others can help them start a relationship with Jesus. We don't have to have all of the answers, we simply need to share what God has done in our lives. In **Acts 1:8** we are promised we can have boldness to share our story. Jesus said:

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

2. Encourage them to make an invite.

God gives us opportunities to make a difference in someone's life by inviting them into a life-changing relationship with Jesus. This starts by simply encouraging your group members to invite people they know to your small group or weekend service.

FOUR COMPONENTS OF SMALL GROUP VISION

1. Choose the type of group you will host.

- Couples
- District (20s & Young Adults)
- Men
- Mixed
- Singles
- Women
- Youth

2. Invite others to join your group.

See the diagram on the next page.

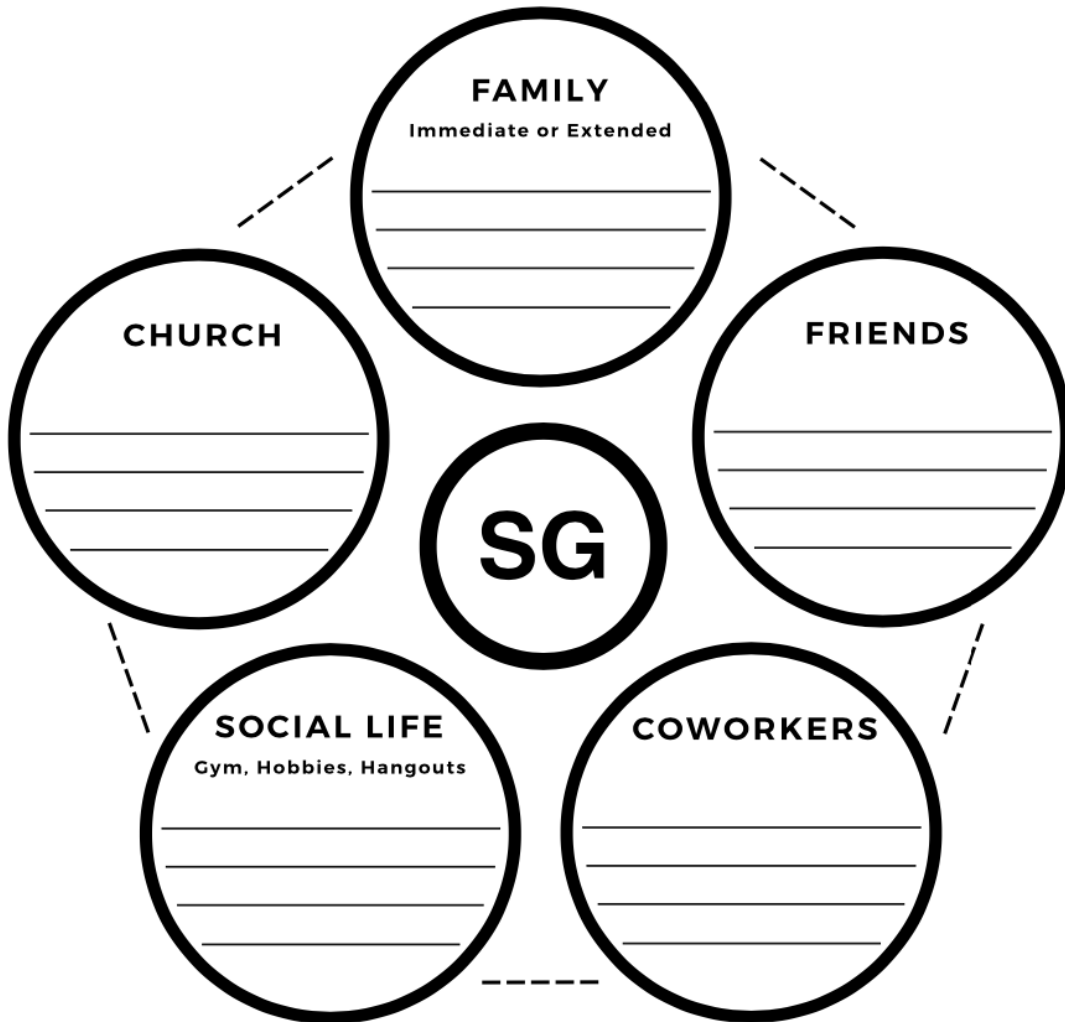
3. Identify ways to keep people in your group connected.

For example: group text, social media, email, calls, etc.

4. Remember to pray for the people in your group.

Small group hosts should pray regularly for the people in their group and the people they have invited to their group.

Who will you invite to your group?



YOUR SMALL GROUP MEETING

A Small Group meeting is designed to help people grow closer to God by engaging in life-giving relationships.

Five Components of a Small Group Meeting:

1. Connect

This is the time before your small group officially begins. This is when you, as the host, are helping others connect with each other.

4. Discussion Questions

These questions are designed to help create engaging discussions, which lead to connection between small group members and growth in their relationship with God.

2. Checking-In

Each small group should begin with group members sharing about what they read during the week in the *Hope Again* book. There will also be a warm-up question provided for each of the six small group sessions.

5. Prayer

At the end of each session, you will find suggestions for your group prayer time. Praying as a group is vital to connecting with God and one another.

3. Video Sessions

The video sessions are taught by Pastor Steve Robinson and are designed to help each small group participant learn about the weekly topic. Video sessions will be available on YouTube. You can also stream or download the videos at **YouCanHopeAgain.com**.

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

We will coach you.

The weekly Coaching Moments videos are available at YouCanHopeAgain.com.

One of our leaders will contact you to encourage you and answer any questions you have.

We will communicate clearly.

We will communicate clearly with you through email and text messages. Please read and respond to all emails about the *Hope Again* series.

We will be praying for you.

Our desire that everyone who commits to hosting a group is equipped, encouraged and supported in prayer.

We will help you continue your group.

We will be ready to help you continue your small group after the *Hope Again* series ends, if you desire to do so.

We will help develop you.

Go to the Host a Group tab at ChurchoftheKing.com/smallgroups for helpful small group training videos.

YOUR NEXT STEPS

1. Complete the Host Form.

Register your group on paper or online. Fill out a paper form in the foyer after a weekend service, if you haven't done so already, or text **Hope Again** to **822-822** to receive a link to the online form.

2. Pick up your host box.

This includes the necessary tools for you to host your small group. Host boxes are available in the foyer after weekend services. If you are a part of our online campus, please email smallgroups@churchoftheking.com to request to have your box mailed to you.

3. Prepare.

Begin to pray, prepare, and invite people to your group!