



## GROUP AGREEMENT

**Community needs intentionality. As our group pursues life in Christ together in the year ahead, we want to do so in a committed way, so that each member of the group is a community-contributor and not a community-consumer. In other words, we know that in order for everyone to best benefit from our group, we all need to invest in it. Below are some ways that, by God's grace, we want to agree together to do so.**

### SHOW UP

We want to commit to this group as often as we are able. Though there may be times that we are sick, out of town, or otherwise unable to attend, we will seek to be present to the best of our ability. We understand that when we fail to show up, it not only inhibits our growth, but also the growth of the group. If we are called to invest in one another, the simple act of showing up is critical to that.

### JOIN IN

We will strive to participate. We all have a voice in our group's discussion. We also all desire to be active listeners. So that everyone can play a part, we commit to fostering healthy conversation; this means we won't be overly silent and passive, but also that we won't be overly dominant or talkative. When we disagree, we will do so with respect, and try our best not to shut one another down. 'Joining in' also means playing a role in the group. Knowing that there will be opportunities to serve and lead within the group, we each commit to play a part.

### BE REAL

We know that we are tempted to make our lives sound more 'together' than they actually are, or to try to portray ourselves in the best possible light. We will strive for honesty, risking transparency, especially as our group begins to develop trust. To do this, we need a safe environment, and so we commit to keep confidences within the group, and avoid gossip or the breaching of trust.

### PRAY

We don't just want to share prayer requests; we want to pray. Often the amount of time spent on the former keeps the latter from happening. We commit to the actual act of prayer together, both in the group and throughout the week.

### KEEP THE GOSPEL AT THE CENTER

We want to grow together, and the gospel is the center-stage means of our transformation. We stand equally in need of grace. But we can be tempted to portray ourselves as 'having arrived.' This group is not about giving advice, offering quick-fixes, or having all the right answers. We want Christ's glory, not our own, to be on display. So we commit to being honest about our need for the 'good news' of forgiveness in Jesus Christ. And knowing that we are sinners among other sinners, we also commit to bearing with one another in love, exercising patience and kindness, and extending the same grace that's been extended to us.

*(Your leader may add other items specific to your group and how it will be lived out in the year ahead).*