

“SERVICE” Group Order of Meeting

When the group has gathered, the leader for the week reads aloud the Opening Statement.

As a group, read the Covenant aloud together.

Take turns reading these SERVICE statements.

Together read aloud the week’s Core Commitment emphasis.

Share prayer requests and pray for one another.

Conclude your meeting with the group praying aloud together the Lord’s Prayer. Afterwards, the leader for the week will read the Closing Statement.

Opening Statement (1 min): May God’s Holy Spirit bless us, and may we find fellowship and encouragement during our time together. Remember, we gather for one purpose—to *be and make disciples in authentic community for the good of God’s world.*

Covenant (3 min): In total dependence upon Jesus Christ—our Savior, Lord, Teacher, and Friend—we will seek to grow by thinking, acting, and being like Jesus and by living together a life of “SERVICE.”

***Spiritual Formation**—*We will assess regularly our growth as apprentices of Jesus Christ and encourage each other to set and achieve personal growth goals.*

***Evangelism**—*Each of us will invest our lives in at least three non-believers and commit to praying together for them monthly.*

***Recreation**—*We will share life together through planned and spontaneous times of enjoying each other’s company. We will invite and welcome others to these events in order to grow our group.*

***Volunteerism**—*We will support our church by praying for and by participating in her ministries.*

***International Missions**—*We will support at least one IBCB international missions project through increased awareness, prayer, participation, and partnership.*

***Caring Relationships**—*We will care for one another through prayer and practical help. We will share openly our needs and demonstrate our love through giving and receiving care.*

***Extending Care**—*We will respond to the social needs of our neighborhood by participating in a local, hands-on, face-to-face, compassionate ministry to people in need.*

Community SERVICE (30 min): Focus on one aspect of biblical community each week talking, sharing, planning, and praying.

***Spiritual Formation**—share how God is growing you in our core commitments (beliefs, practices, and virtues)

***Evangelism**—pray for the spiritual, emotional, relational, and physical needs of your family, friends, and neighbors that are non-believers.

***Recreation**—“do life” together and play some games, enjoy visiting, plan a party

***Volunteerism**—review IBCB emphases (eNotes/bulletin) and prayer needs; discuss where you are plugged-in to support the life of the church

***International Missions**—select a specific IBCB international project that you will support through awareness, prayer, participation, and partnership (see Pastor’s Blog)

***Caring Relationships**—pray for each other’s struggles; discuss needs and how the group might offer support

***Extending Care**—select a specific local “compassion” project that you will get involved in as a means of connecting with your neighborhood/city

Core Commitments: Beliefs, Practices, and Virtues (30 min): Read the week’s Core Commitment (found in the bulletin or on the studies provided weekly); read the selected passage and do the interactive study or select your own study and relate it to the **Core Commitments** (see the Pastor’s Blog)

Community Care (30 min): Share openly your emotional, relational, physical, and financial needs and pray for one another.

Closing Statement (1 min): What we’ve said and heard in this gathering was spoken in confidence and stays here when we leave. What goes with us is the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the fellowship we share in the Holy Spirit, and the love of our heavenly Father. Amen.