

Small Group Launch Guide

Thank you for stepping up to start a new small group. Once you have completed your pre-launch training and met with your Area Pastor, the following guide will help you launch your group practically.

- **Step 1: Pray and define your target** (the group of people God wants you to serve and reach).
 - Most groups target one of the following three targets:
 - **Neighborhood:** starting a group for people in a particular area
 - **Network:** starting a group for people who share an affinity (your co-workers, men, women, marriage, parenting, etc.)
 - **Need:** starting a group to meet a particular need (support groups, serving foster care families, serving the homeless, etc.)
- **Step 2: Pray and make a list of people you want to invite to start your group with you.**
 - Other potential leaders who share the same heart you have
 - People you know who could be interested in the group
 - “Prospects,” or people from your campus, who your Area Pastor could connect you with
- **Step 3: Plan a time to discuss the vision and plan for your group.**
 - Host an informal time (meal, coffee, or meet up) with the core people you want to start the group with.
 - Cast vision and share your heart for why you want to start the group. 3 things group will do:
 - **Love: Group is a safe place** to welcome new people and love each other where we are. Not here to fix each other, but to cultivate authentic relationships through care and respect.
 - **Encourage: Group will encourage you to grow** in your relationship with Jesus no matter where you are starting. Going to read the Bible and encourage each other to obey the steps of faith Jesus is leading us to take.
 - **Reach: Group will help you grow as a leader** who lives out your faith by serving others and sharing your faith at home, work, and places go every day.
 - Discuss and get feedback about your *group’s growth plan together* for the first season.
 - Decide on the time and place the group will meet. Pick a launch date.
 - *Think through a few options that could work for you ahead of time.
 - Make a list of people you want to invite and pray together.
- **Step 4: Keep praying, invite people to come and lead your first group!**
 - 4 wins for your first meeting
 1. Welcome and love people where they are.
 2. Cast vision and set expectations for the group.
 3. Facilitate a Biblical discussion that applies to life.
 4. Remind them of the Gospel of Jesus and pray together.
- **Step 5: Don’t forget to manage your group in Touchpoint.**
 - How to [utilize touchpoint to manage your group](#).

Thank you for partnering with Hope to reach the Triangle and Change the world.