

Growth Group Facilitator FAQs

ON GROWTH GROUP PHILOSOPHY

Q. What is a Growth Group?

A. Simply put, Growth Groups are places for people to connect and “do life” together. They are safe, comfortable, stress-free places where individuals have the opportunity to meet new people, make new friends, learn something new, and grow spiritually within a social context.

Q. Why do you have Growth Groups?

A. At Gateway, we feel that it is very important for people to connect outside of a Sunday service. Growth Groups provide a way for people to meet others with common interests in hope of building lasting relationships.

Q. What makes Growth Groups different from traditional small groups?

A. Four things make Growth Groups unique:

1. They last around 11 weeks at a time
2. They are based around people’s common interests
3. They find a way to serve and play together
4. They typically have 12-15 people in them instead of 6-8

Q. Why have you chosen the timeframes you have for signups?

A. Our primary goal is to get anyone who comes on a Sunday into a Growth Group. Our sign-up times coincide with the best chance of getting people into groups because of it is when people are most likely to attend.

ON TOPICS TO FACILITATE

Q. What topics can I offer?

A. We have a list of approved resources and you can obtain them by contacting Heather Akland (heather.akland@gatewayfellowship.com). They are on a checkout system so, first come, first served.

Q. What if none of the topics interest me or I want to do my own topic?

A. We encourage people to venture out and try new ideas! If it is not on the list, contact Mario (mario.white@gatewayfellowship.com) to get the topic approved. Our desire is to set you up for success and part of that is having curriculum that is doctrinally in line with Gateway as well as a topic that will interest a large audience. You should strive to create the curriculum to last 9 weeks.

ON LEADERSHIP

Q. What are the requirements to become a Growth Group Facilitator?

A. We try to keep it simple. While it takes more than breathing, it doesn't require a PhD in group leading. Just refer to the "Growth Group Facilitator Requirements & Responsibilities" section of this packet.

Q. Do I have to lead a group all three seasons throughout the year?

A. Nope! In fact, we ask you not to. We understand that some seasons are more difficult than others. Serve for the two that work best for you!

Q. I want to facilitate a group but I don't want to do it at my house. Are there other options?

A. We hope so. You can ask those in your group if they are open to hosting it or even rotating houses. Gateway also attempts to create a list of possible host homes for groups.

Q. I want to have a babysitter at our group but I don't know of any. Any ideas?

A. Yes! Simply contact Mario (mario.white@gatewayfellowship.com) for the most current list of Gateway-approved babysitters. It is our hope to remove any barriers to people coming to your group!

ON PARTICIPATING IN A GROWTH GROUP

Q. How do people sign up for a GG?

A. When the group promotion month is open (Sept, Jan, and May), they simply sign up during the service, out in the lobby, or online at www.christmemorial.net.

Q. Do all studies require me to purchase a book?

A. Not necessarily. We might have a copy on site. If you are doing a study that requires a book or materials to be purchased, we place a link on the website where group members can purchase them, unless other arrangements are necessary. When people purchase materials through our website, it benefits the GG ministry.

Q. Do we have to provide childcare?

A. Nope! However, if you do, groups that offer childcare often request some small donation that is thrown into the "pot" to help pay the babysitter.

Q. What if people don't like my group?

A. We strive to make all of our groups and enjoyable spot. However, the reality is that not everyone will be a good match for them. When this happens, it is your role to suggest a different group that might be a better fit for them and help them with that transition.

LET'S CHAT! mario.white@gatewayfellowship.com