

LifeGroup Leader Expectations

We consider LifeGroup leaders at GCR to be men and women entrusted by God with the spiritual welfare of those in their group. In the truest sense of the word they are shepherds of the sheep of His pasture. We believe that LifeGroup leaders have been entrusted with some of the most significant roles of leadership at GCR. Our elders view LifeGroup leaders as extensions of their own shepherding responsibilities and as the critical and most basic point of spiritual growth and care in the body.

LifeGroup leaders should have the following qualities or characteristics in order to serve effectively in their roles.

1. LifeGroup leaders should love God with all their heart, soul, mind and strength.

One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" "The most important one" answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'" Mark 12:28-30

2. LifeGroup leaders should be willing to submit to the authority of Jesus in every aspect of their life.

"If you love me, you will obey what I command...Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him." John 14:15, 21

3. LifeGroup leaders should have a good reputation in the church and in the community regarding their character, their business practices, and their relationships.

Deacons, likewise, are to be men worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons. In the same way, their wives are to be women worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything. I Timothy 3:8-11

4. LifeGroup leaders should love the word of God and look to it as the rule for life, conduct and doctrine.

I rise before dawn and cry for help; I have put my hope in your word. Psalm 119:147

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. II Timothy 3:16, 17.

5. LifeGroup leaders should have a love for people, especially the people of God.

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. John 13:34

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. Galatians 6:10

6. LifeGroup leaders should have an active prayer life.

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. Galatians 6:18

7. LifeGroup leaders should have a healthy family and marriage (if married) and if single, they should have spiritually healthy relationships with others including those they may be dating.

He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. (If anyone does not

LifeGroup Leader Expectations

LifeGroup Leader Training

know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) I Timothy 3:4, 5

8. LifeGroup leaders should be willing to make their leadership in LifeGroups their greatest ministry priority and must be willing and able to give it the time it needs and deserves (approximately two to three hours per week in addition to the actual LifeGroup meeting time).

In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' Acts 20:35

9. LifeGroup leaders should be devoted and committed to their LifeGroup and present at their weekly group meeting at least 80% of the time.

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:25

10. LifeGroup leaders should be in willing submission to the spiritual authority of the GCR elders and LifeGroup ministry team and never knowingly practice or teach anything in their groups that they believe the GCR elders would not approve.

Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you. Hebrews 13:17

11. LifeGroup leaders should have an expectation of numerical and spiritual growth and plan to multiply within 9 to 12 months.

And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. II Timothy 2:2

12. LifeGroup leaders should actively equip and encourage LifeGroup members for works of service and outreach.

It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Ephesians 4:11-13

13. LifeGroup leaders should model a life of Disciplemaking, by cultivating relationships with unbelievers, verbally testifying to the supremacy of Jesus Christ and the truth of God, inviting them to respond to God and helping anyone take the next step in their obedience to God.

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18, 19