Home Group Strategy

May 2011

WESTWOOD

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up…"
1 Thessalonians 5:11

Mission Statement

Westwood's Home Group Ministry exists to develop growing disciples by:
   a) experiencing community and life-on-life spiritual encouragement.
   b) living on mission together.
   c) encouraging spiritual growth through the practice of spiritual disciplines.
   d) developing leaders in order to multiply groups.

Organization and Strategy:

1. Groups meet weekly for Bible study, fellowship, and prayer.

2. Group size will be at least eight, but no more than 15 people. Twelve is the ideal number.

3. Groups will meet year-round, breaking no more than two weeks at any time.

4. The Group Leader will intentionally shepherd the group to fulfill its mission.

5. Leaders will enlist an apprentice and other leaders to coordinate various aspects of group life.

6. Groups will seek to provide leadership and sponsor a new group every two years.

7. Groups will function on a semester system:
     a. New members may enter the group in August and January if space is available.
     b. Existing members will re-enlist or opt-out at the end of each semester.
     c. Groups with existing space will be open for new members during the semester.
     d. During the open enrollment month, new group members will sign up online.*

8. All of Westwood's groups will at times participate in coordinated church-wide studies.

9. Group members will agree to abide by Westwood's Group Covenant.

10. Groups will be assigned a coach who will be a mentor and helper.

11. Groups passing 12-15 in attendance need to sponsor a new group.

12. The church will organize service, ministry and missions through its small groups.

13. Each meeting's attendance will be reported by the group.

14. Group leaders experiencing challenges are expected to discuss issues with their coach, Campus Pastor and/or the Small Groups Pastor.

* Sign up will also be available at the Groups Table in the Atrium for those who need access.