

## **GROWTH GROUP COVENANT**

It's a good idea to put words to shared values, expectations, and commitments. Such guidelines will help you avoid unspoken agendas and unmet expectations. Discuss your guidelines to ensure a healthy group experience.

I AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES:

- 1. GROUP ATTENDANCE I will make the necessary personal arrangements to ensure that I attend all 10 meetings in the semester. I'll text the facilitator if I'm going to be late or if an emergency arises.
- SAFE ENVIRONMENT I will create a safe place where people can be heard and feel accepted (no "course jesting", quick answers, snap judgments, or simple fixes – Eph 5:4). Also, I'll ask myself, "Is what I desire to share going to promote unity?" (Eph 4:3; 1 Cor 1:10)
- 3. GROUP DYNAMICS I will be careful not to monopolize the time by talking too much. Others need to have the opportunity to share and feel valued. If I already shared once regarding a point, then I will allow room for others to pitch in. Also, I'll make sure that what I share is on-topic. Regarding prayer or other elements in the meeting, I'll be attentive to the facilitator's instruction.
- 4. BE CONFIDENTIAL I will keep anything that is shared strictly confidential within the group.
- 5. CONFLICT RESOLUTION I will avoid gossip and to immediately resolve any concerns by following the principles of Matt 18:15-17.
- 6. SPIRITUAL HEALTH I will give group members permission to speak into my life and help me live a healthy and balanced spiritual life that is pleasing to God.
- LIMIT OUR FREEDOM I will refrain from talking about certain liberties I have (such as, for example, alcohol consumption) that others may not have and could possibly be offended by. I will not talk excessively about subjects that do not edify others or do not please the Lord.
- 8. WELCOME NEWCOMERS I will invite family and friends who would benefit from the group. I will warmly welcome newcomers.
- 9. BUILD RELATIONSHIPS I will get to know the other members of the group, swap contact info, build meaningful relationships, and pray for them regularly.