



Characteristics of a Healthy Group

Groups are the places in our family of faith where church really happens. Whether you meet Sunday morning at the church or midweek in a restaurant or someone's living room, our desire is for you to be part of a healthy, exciting group experience that challenges you daily to be a disciple who makes disciples.

Building a healthy group takes time and hard work, but it's so worth it. Following are some characteristics we value in creating healthy groups.

Care

Healthy groups care for their members like family. When one is hurting, all are hurting. When one is celebrating, all are celebrating. Caring well shows the hands and feet of Jesus. Caring includes prayer, meeting consistently, playing, and serving together, and it lets group members deepen relationships in different ways so they can care for each other better.

- **Prayer.** Healthy groups pray with and for each other regularly. They follow up with each other during the week to let each other know they're being prayed for.
- **Consistency.** Weekly is best. Healthy groups keep a consistent meeting schedule, because consistency is critical for people to connect and grow closer relationally.
- **Play.** Healthy groups find ways to have fun outside the regular group meeting. Supper clubs, hobbies, girls' or guys' nights out. Enjoy the people in your group.
- **Serve.** Healthy groups live out their faith by serving on mission together. Broadmoor offers ways to serve at the church, with local mission partners, or on a mission trip, and your group can even develop its own project. Serve together and watch your group grow closer.

Guide

Healthy groups are in God's Word daily, and when they meet together. They're always guided by the truth of Scripture. Healthy groups don't run from the hard truths found in the Bible, but instead figure out how to support one another through the challenges Scripture brings.

- **Submit to God's Word daily.** Whether we're studying Scripture on our own or in a group setting, we want to learn to submit to what we hear from the Lord, even the challenging things. Write down what you're hearing as you study, hear sermons, and work through Life Group lessons, and look for chances to share what God is teaching you.

Encourage

Healthy groups encourage next steps as they study God's Word together. Spiritual growth happens as members encourage, and sometimes nudge, each other to take their next steps toward Jesus.

- **Transparency and Confession.** People need to feel safe as they reveal more of their lives to the group. Groups are places of authenticity and confidentiality where people can share sins or struggles. Healthy groups don't judge. They pray for and restore group members who need it.
- **Accountability.** As relationships deepen, so does the accountability for growing in the disciplines of the faith. Healthy groups make room for that: men with men, ladies with ladies.
- **Multiply.** Healthy groups always have a multiplication mindset. How can your group send out to start a new group, so someone unconnected can have the same chance you've had to be part of a life-giving group?

As we think about multiplication:

Identify: Leaders identify people with potential to lead others.

Initiate: Leaders initiate conversations with potential leaders.

Invest: Leaders invest in potential leaders to prepare them to lead effectively.

Impact: Leaders recognize the potential these leaders have to influence our families, church, community, and workplaces, and they release them with the prayer support of their current group.

That's life on life. It's the same road every servant leader walks on Broadmoor's Leadership Pathway: Disciple to DiscipleMaker to Guide to Multiplier. A healthy group is where that pathway starts. Identify, initiate, invest, impact: that's how you grow a group that's raising up disciples who make disciples.

Group Roles

A healthy group cares, guides, and encourages well when the load is shared. Here are six key roles to have in place, ideally with someone who owns each one and a team to carry it out.

- **Facilitator** Responsible for creating a conversation around the biblical content.
- **Coordinator/Administrator** Responsible for group communication, helping the Facilitator/Teacher with whatever's needed, and hosting on Sunday morning.
- **Hospitality/Fellowship** Responsible for room greeters and group fellowships.
- **Prayer Encourager** Responsible for keeping prayer needs in front of the group weekly and following up with those who requested prayer.
- **Missions/Service** Responsible for keeping mission and service opportunities in front of the group.
- **Care Coordinator** Responsible for guest follow-up, member care, and attendance.

Some groups may have other roles in place, and that's great. Groups come in all sizes, so some of these may be handled by the same person. The goal is simple: get a name attached to each role above.