

TABLE GROUPS

SIERRA BIBLE CHURCH
Sonora

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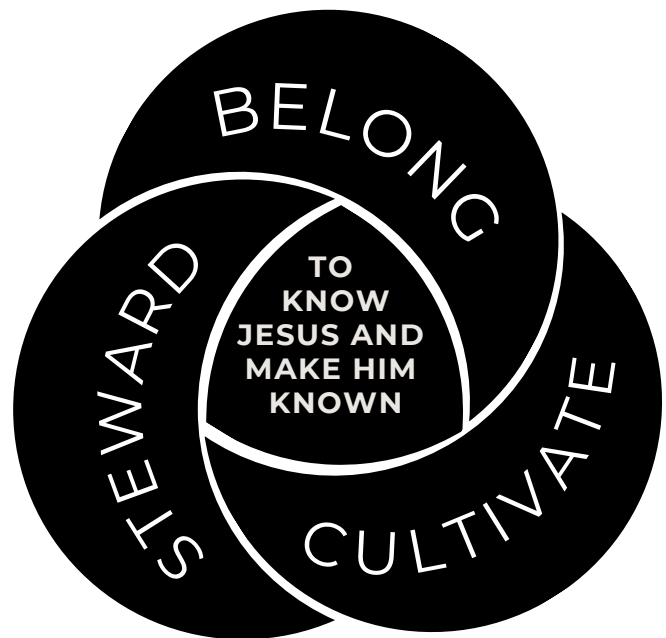
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WELCOME TO TABLE GROUPS

What is a TABLE GROUP?

We are so excited for you as you begin this new journey of growth! Table Groups are small discipleship groups made up of 3–4 people and a leader who meet weekly or bi-weekly for about an hour. Together, you'll open God's Word, pray for one another, and share life in a meaningful and intentional way.

AT SIERRA BIBLE CHURCH WE GET
"To Know Jesus and Make Him Known"
ON OUR DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY.



These groups are designed to help you **Cultivate** a Life with Christ, **Belong** in Community, and **Steward** Your Life with Purpose – taking real steps toward knowing Jesus more deeply and making Him known through your life.

MODULE 1: CULTIVATE

Cultivate your life with Christ.

“This is what the Lord says: ‘Let not the wise boast of their wisdom or the strong boast of their strength or the rich boast of their riches, but let the one who boasts boast about this, that they have the understanding to know me’.”

Jeremiah 9:23–24

“There’s a difference between knowing God and knowing about God. When you truly know God, you have energy to serve Him, boldness to share Him, and contentment in Him.”

–J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*

“AND THIS IS ETERNAL LIFE, THAT THEY KNOW
YOU THE ONLY TRUE GOD, AND JESUS CHRIST
WHOM YOU HAVE SENT.”

JOHN 17:3

CULTIVATE | **WEEK 1**

TESTIMONY

Leader shares their story

All Share

- What are you hoping to get out of this time?
- What would a perfect day look like for you?

For The Group:

- Familiarize yourself with the instruction pages covering **Talking To God pg. 20, Bible Study pg. 21, and Making Space For Change pg. 22.**
 - Share a bit of your experience regarding these three practices.
- Read John 3:1-21. What is one thing that stands out?

Prayer:

- Share requests and commit to praying (write them in the note section, pg. 23).
- If appropriate – have one person pray for the requests.

For Next Week: Read Genesis 2-3, Romans 1:18-25 and Romans 6:23

Decide who will share their story? (See pg. 19)

CULTIVATE | **WEEK 2**

TESTIMONY

Have one person share their story with time for questions. Refer to page 19 for helpful things to consider.

All Share

- For what in your life are you most grateful?

Prayer

- How did you see or sense God working? What do you hear God saying?
- What requests do you have?

Bible Reading

- Genesis 2-3, Romans 1:18-25 and Romans 6:23
- What stood out from your time reading?
- Use the study questions (pg. 21)

For next week, read John 10:1-18, highlight what stands out.
Who will share their story next week?

CULTIVATE | **WEEK 3**

TESTIMONY

Have one person share their story with time for questions. Refer to page 19 for helpful things to consider.

All Share

Name two things that you would assume each of you has in common.

Bible Reading:

- John 10:1-18
- Use the study questions (pg. 21)

Prayer

- How did you see or sense God working?
- What do you hear God saying?
- What requests do you have?
- What is a bold prayer you are praying?

For next week, read 2 Corinthians 5:11-20.

Make a few notes about what stands out from the reading.

Who will share their story next week?

CULTIVATE | **WEEK 4**

TESTIMONY

Have one person share their story with time for questions. Refer to page 19 for helpful things to consider.

All Share

What do you think is most challenging about your Christian faith?

Bible Reading:

- 2 Corinthians 5:11–20
- Use the study questions (pg. 21)

Prayer

- How did you see or sense God working?
- What do you hear God saying?
- Have you ever given up on prayer or a specific prayer?

END OF MODULE #1. YAY!

For the group to discuss:

Will we move on to Module 2, Belong?

MODULE 2: BELONG

Belong In Community

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another”.
John 13:34–35

“Christian brotherhood is not an ideal which we must realize; it is rather a reality created by God in Christ in which we may participate. The more clearly we learn to recognize that the ground and strength and promise of all our fellowship is in Jesus Christ alone, the more serenely shall we think of our fellowship and pray and hope for it”.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together*

BELONG | WEEK 1

ALL SHARE

What does friendship mean to you?
What distinctives define “Christian”
friendship?

ALL SHARE

Prayer

- In what ways are you thankful to God?
- How did you see or sense God working?
- What do you hear God saying?
- What prayer requests do you have?

Bible Reading

- Read Acts 2:42–47
- Use the study questions (pg. 21)

Confession

- Refer to Making Space for Change on pg. 22
- Of the four categories (A, B, C, D), which is most difficult for you? Why?
- Plan to share at the next meeting.

For next week, read Hebrews 10:24–25 and Galatians 5:13–26.

BELONG| **WEEK 2**

ALL SHARE

When was the last time you cried in front of someone?

Prayer

- What is one challenge when it comes to prayer?
- How did you see or sense God working?
- What do you hear God saying?
- What prayer requests do you have?

Bible Reading

- Read Hebrews 10:24–25 and Galatians 5:13–26
- Use study questions (pg. 21)

Confession

- Remind your group of its commitment to confidentiality and support
- When the Apostle Paul talks about his sin he says that sometimes he **does** the very thing he doesn't want to do but also **fails to do** the thing he knows he should. How are these categories helpful when you consider some area that you struggle with?
- What is an area of struggle for you?

For next week, read Philippians 2:1–18.

BELONG | **WEEK 3**

ALL SHARE

If you knew that in one year you would suddenly die, would you change anything about the way you are now living? Why?

Prayer

- What do you praise God for today? Make a list.
- What is one way you have seen God answer prayer?

Bible Reading

- Read Philippians 2:1–18
- Use the study questions (pg. 21)

Confession

- When you think through the last week:
 - When did you experience temptation?
 - Are there instances or areas of sin you can bring before the group?

For next week, read Romans 12:9–21.

Who will share their story?

BELONG | **WEEK 4**

ALL SHARE

Share something you consider to be a positive characteristic about each person in your group.

Prayer

- How have you heard from or seen God work this week?
- What requests do you have?

Bible Reading

- Read Romans 12:9–21
- Use the study questions (pg. 21)

Confession

- Read Psalm 51
- Give the group a chance to share

END OF MODULE #2 YAY!

For the group to discuss:

Will we move on to Module 3, Steward?

MODULE 3: STEWARD

Steward Your Life With Purpose

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”

1 Peter 4:10

“Being a servant of God is different from being a servant of a human master. A servant of a human master works FOR his master. God, however, works THROUGH His servants.”

Henry T. Blackaby, *Experiencing God*

STEWARD | WEEK 1

ALL SHARE

If you could wake up tomorrow having gained any one quality or ability, what would it be?

Prayer

- How have you heard from or seen God work this week?
- How can we commit to pray for each other throughout this session in the area of finding and following God's purpose for our lives?

Bible Reading

- Read Ephesians 2:1-10
- Use the study questions (pg. 21)

Confession

- Share an area in your life where you have missed the mark in your thoughts, words or actions.
- How can the group support you in this area?

For next week, read John 15.

STEWARD | WEEK 2

ALL SHARE

How do you feel about sharing your faith?
Share a time you shared.

Prayer

- How have you heard from or seen God work this week?
- Commit to praying Bill Bright's daily prayer for each other this week: *"Lord, today I offer up this body to you. Speak through this mouth, walk with these legs, look through these eyes, think through this mind, listen with these ears, love through this heart and serve with these hands."*

Bible Reading

- John 15
- Use the study questions (pg. 21)

Confession

- What have I been trusting in more than God?
- How can the group support you in this area?

For next week, who is sharing their story?
Read 1 Corinthians 12:12–20 and Luke 15.

STEWARD | **WEEK 3**

CHECK IN

When was a time that you felt fully alive in serving God?

When you look at the challenges in your church, community or world- what breaks your heart?

Prayer

- How have you heard from or seen God work this week?
- Give thanks for 3–4 people that have uniquely served you throughout your life.

Bible Reading

- 1 Corinthians 12:12–20 and Luke 15
- Use the Bible study questions (pg. 21)

Confession

- What worries or fears do you sense in your life?
- How can the group support you in this area?

For Next Week: Read 2 Corinthians 8 and 9

STEWARD | **WEEK 4**

ALL SHARE

Is it harder for you to give up 'your' time or 'your' money?

Prayer

- How have you heard from or seen God work this week?
- What is one area that you sense you need God to change or renew your mind or heart? Commit to praying for each other.

Bible Reading

- 2 Corinthians 8 and 9
- Use the Bible study questions (pg. 21)

Confession

- How is God challenging you to step up and serve Him?
- What is an area of 'loving others' where God is asking you to go the final 10%?
- How can the group support you in this area?

END OF MODULE #3 YAY!

You have completed Module 3. Consider celebrating as a group ... what are some ideas?

TELL YOUR STORY

Five Things to Consider as You Prepare Your Story

1. Identify the defining moments.

What are two or three key experiences, decisions, relationships, successes, failures, or hardships that shaped who you are today? Focus on moments that reveal God's work in your life rather than trying to cover your entire biography.

2. Be honest about the struggle.

What fears, questions, wounds, sins, disappointments, or challenges have you faced? Authenticity creates connection and helps others see the reality of God's grace.

3. Highlight God's faithfulness.

Where did you see God provide, guide, correct, comfort, rescue, or transform you? Help listeners recognize God's activity, even in seasons where His presence was not immediately obvious.

4. Share what is still being formed in you.

Your story is not just about what happened in the past. How is Jesus shaping your character, priorities, relationships, or faith today? Ongoing growth is often as encouraging as dramatic change.

5. Consider what others can learn from your journey.

As you reflect on your story, ask: What does my experience teach about God? What encouragement, hope, warning, or invitation might someone else need to hear? The goal is not simply to tell your story but to point people toward the goodness and faithfulness of Christ.

TALKING TO GOD

PRAYER

- *What experience do you already have?*
- *What questions do you have?*
- *What fears or concerns do you have?*

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
Philippians 4:6*

1

The Foundation of Prayer

- Prayer is first and foremost relationship with God, not just requests (Jeremiah 29:12–13; John 15:7).
- It flows from God's love for us and our trust in Him (Philippians 4:6–7).

2

The Pattern of Prayer

Jesus gave us the Lord's Prayer as a model (Matthew 6:9–13):

- Worship and honor God's name.
- Submit to His will & ask for daily provision.
- Seek forgiveness and extend forgiveness.
- Ask for protection and deliverance.

3

The Practice of Prayer

- Pray regularly and persistently (1 Thessalonians 5:17; Luke 18:1).
- Pray with thanksgiving (Colossians 4:2).
- Pray in Jesus' name (John 14:13–14), recognizing His authority and access to the Father.
- Pray in the Spirit (Ephesians 6:18), guided by God's Word.

4

The Purpose of Prayer

- Glorify God (John 14:13).
- Align our hearts with His will (1 John 5:14).
- Bring our needs, cares and desires before Him (Philippians 4:6).
- Intercede for others (1 Timothy 2:1).
- Grow in intimacy with God (Psalm 63:1–4).

LISTENING TO GOD

(BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS)

Observation (What does it say?)

- What stands out to you in this passage?
- Who are the key people, and what are they doing?
- What words, phrases or ideas are repeated or emphasized?

Interpretation (What does it mean?)

- What does this passage teach us about God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit)?
- What does it teach us about people (human nature, faith, sin, obedience)?
- How does this passage fit into the bigger story of the Bible?

Application (How does it apply to me?)

- What truth here encourages you?
- What challenge or warning do you see?
- What step of obedience can you take in response to this passage?
- How can you live this out in your relationships, work or daily life?

KEEP IT SIMPLE: TRUTH > MEANING > APPLICATION

- **WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY?**
- **WHAT DOES IT TEACH US ABOUT GOD?**
- **WHAT DOES IT TEACH US ABOUT PEOPLE?**
- **HOW SHOULD I LIVE DIFFERENTLY BECAUSE OF THIS?**

MAKING SPACE FOR CHANGE: CONFESSION

*Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. **Romans 8:1***

A Admit

- Honestly acknowledge your sin before God and appropriately before others.
- Don't hide, excuse, or minimize it (Psalm 32:5).

B Believe

- Trust that God is faithful and just to forgive because of Christ's sacrifice (1 John 1:9).
- Believe His grace is greater than your sin (Romans 8:1).

C Confess & Commit

- Confess specifically to God (Psalm 51:1-2) and to others (James 5:16).
- Commit to turn from the sin and walk in obedience (Acts 3:19).

D Delight

- Receive God's forgiveness with gratitude (Psalm 103:12).
- Delight in restored fellowship and freedom, letting joy replace guilt (Psalm 51:12).

"sin is missing the target, a wandering from the path, a straying from the fold. Sin is a hard heart and a stiff neck. Sin is blindness and deafness. It is both the overstepping of a line and the failure to reach it – both transgression and shortcoming. Sin is a beast crouching at the door. In sin, people attack or evade or neglect their divine calling. Sin is disruption of created harmony and then resistance to divine restoration of that harmony. Above all, sin disrupts and resists the vital human relation to God..."

"In sum, shalom is God's design for creation and redemption; sin is culpable human vandalism of these great realities and therefore an affront to their architect and builder."
-Cornelius Plantinga

MAKE IT REAL!

Learning to love others as I, in Christ, have been loved.

- How do I share the gospel with others?
- How do I love my spouse?
- How do I form a good habit? Break a bad habit?
- How do I handle conflict?
- How do I handle my money? Get out of debt?
- How do I offer forgiveness?
- How do I raise my kids to know and love Jesus?
- How do I find a place to serve at the church? In the community?

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