

FOP GROUP LEADER TRAINING



TABLE OF CONTENTS

WHAT ARE FOP GROUPS?	5
TWO GOALS OF AN FOP GROUP	7
FOP LEADERS LEAD BY	8
BUILDING BIBLICAL COMMUNITY	9
LEADING THE GROUP TO RELATIONSHIP	10
LEADERSHIP GROUP DISCUSSION	12
THE GOAL IS APPLICATION	14
GROUP STRUCTURE	16
APPENDIX	20

WHAT ARE FOP GROUPS?

Acts 2:46 says of the disciples, *“Day by day they continued meeting together in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house.”*

When the Spirit came upon the people, transformation happened. The disciples became one in Christ. After this event they continued to meet together in the Jerusalem temple, but they also met in smaller groups - in homes. At FOP Church, we believe in gathering together for the proclamation of the Word, for corporate worship and prayer, and for celebrating baptisms and the Lord’s Supper together in our Sunday meetings. We want everybody in our body to make that a priority, but we also encourage involvement in an FOP Group. This is because FOP Groups are a great context for encouraging deeper relationships and growth in our Christian lives.

FOP Groups facilitate:

- Application of the Word to our lives
- Accountability for living a godly lifestyle
- Caring for one another
- Service to others
- Evangelism
- Fellowship
- The development of leaders

We believe that every believer is “full of purpose”. At the heart of our vision for the FOP Group ministry at FOP Church is the desire to see a community of purposeful believers (relationship) who are making intentional growth, deeper in their love for Christ and their obedience to him (discipleship).

WHAT'S THE PURPOSE OF FOP GROUPS?

The Scriptures indicate that the Christian life is to be lived out in community with other believers. Within that community, we are instructed to encourage one another, serve one another, rejoice and weep with one another, correct, instruct, build up, accept and love one another. FOP Groups provide a wonderful context to facilitate involvement in one another's lives.

Hebrews 10:24-25 says, *"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. 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."*

As a church, we are hopeful that our FOP Group ministry will be one of the significant ways we live out our obedience to this exhortation.

HOW DO FOP GROUPS FIT INTO OUR CHURCH?

Though the Bible does not command us to organize a small group ministry, it does presuppose that a significant relational life exists within the church. Small groups are a chosen means of cultivating relational life and discipleship at FOP Church.

TWO GOALS OF AN FOP GROUP

RELATIONSHIPS AND DISCIPLESHIP

Acts 2:42-47 is the foundational Scripture for any small group ministry. It sets forth the model of groups meeting in homes for the purpose of study, prayer and fellowship.

I. RELATIONSHIPS

The Christian Life is not solitary. God calls us to live out our lives with him in the context of relationships—especially those relationships with other members of FOP Church. One of the primary purposes of the FOP Group structure is to provide a context where we can establish real and lasting relationships. Relationally, small groups provide a context for:

1. Developing friendships.
2. Caring for one another with practical help and personal encouragement.
3. Celebrating joyful occasions, and to have fun together.
4. Serving side by side with group members as we seek to serve others.
5. Encouraging outreach.

II. BIBLICAL DISCIPLESHIP

A disciple is a fully devoted follower of Christ who finds his/her identity in Christ and expresses that identity through loving God, loving others, and obeying the commands of Christ. The FOP Group should be a place which encourages our growth in Christian discipleship. We are called to be disciples and to make disciples. In our meetings, we should strive to encouraging each other through Scripture, praying together, and challenging one another toward growth in Christ-likeness.

FOP GROUP LEADERS LEAD BY:

LIVING AS EXAMPLES - Paul practiced what he preached. He could tell the Ephesians elders to remember how he lived (v. 18), and he could even say, "Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ" (1 Cor. 11:1) As leaders, our lives ought to reflect the glorious gospel that we proclaim.

SERVING - Paul said he "served the Lord with all humility and with tears..." (v. 19). His life was characterized by "laying down his life" in the manner of Christ who had come "not to be served but to serve" ... (Mark 10:45). So, as leaders, we lead by becoming servants.

PERSEVERING - No one said leadership would be easy. Paul experienced "conflicts without" (v. 19, 23) and "conflicts within" (v. 29-30), but he continued to minister faithfully to the end. Leadership is not for the faint-hearted.

TEACHING - Paul was faithful to teach both in public forums as well as from house to house (v. 20). He was faithful to tell his disciples whatever would be profitable to them, even if he suspected it might be hard for them to accept (v. 20). He was faithful in teaching "the whole council of God" (v. 27).

MISSIONAL - Paul said *"I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry I received from the Lord..."*

PROTECTING THE FLOCK - Paul called the elders to pay careful attention to (vs. 28) and to be aware of those who would come among the flock and do them harm (v. 29-30). Leaders must seek to protect their people from errant teachings and their harmful effects. This is why we have included our church doctrinal statement in this packet. These are the teachings which we consider it important to ascribe to, to teach, and to defend.

COMMITTED TO THE WORD - Paul commended the Ephesian elders to God and the "word of His grace" (v. 32), so leaders must be students of the Word, always pointing others to the Word.

LOVING - Paul exemplified this by loving sacrificially. He reminded his disciples of the Lord's words, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (v. 35). Leaders who put this into practice will find that in giving, they will enrich many, while at the same time enrich their own souls.

BUILDING BIBLICAL COMMUNITY

In this section we are going to look at the value of biblical relationships and how to promote them in your FOP Groups.

RELATIONSHIPS SHOULD RESULT IN BIBLICAL COMMUNITY

Christian men and women can form relationships that allow them to be known at a personal level, and that enable them to experience care and encouragement. The most successful FOP Groups value relationships: they live out their lives together and they see their small group as more than just a social gathering. Genuine relationships require effort, and leaders play an important part in helping the group cultivate and develop friendships by leading and motivating their people in this direction.

RELATIONSHIPS SHOULD AID TRANSFORMATION

God has given us the Christian community with all its differences and giftings as the context for change and growth. The truth is, God uses you to help others change and He uses others to help you change. FOP Groups are communities where we help one another in the process of discipleship.

RELATIONSHIPS SHOULD MEET THE “ONE-ANOTHER’S” OF THE NEW TESTAMENT:

- *Be at peace with one another (Mark 9:50)*
- *Love one another (John 13:34)*
- *Be devoted to one another (Romans 12:10)*
- *Honor one another (Romans 12:10)*
- *Live in harmony with one another (Romans 12:16)*
- *Stop passing judgment on one another (Romans 14:13)*
- *Accept one another (Romans 15:7)*
- *Instruct one another (Romans 15:14)*
- *Greet one another (Romans 16:16)*
- *Serve one another (Galatians 5:13)*
- *Carry each other's burden (Galatians 6:2)*
- *Be patient, bearing with one another in love (Ephesians 4:2)*
- *Be kind and compassionate to one another (Ephesians 4:32)*
- *Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs (Ephesians 5:19)*
- *Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ (Ephesians 5:21)*
- *In humility consider others better than yourselves (Philippians 2:3)*
- *Teach one another (Colossians 3:16)*
- *Admonish one another (Colossians 3:16)*
- *Encourage one another (1 Thessalonians 4:18)*
- *Build each other up (1 Thessalonians 5:11)*
- *Spur one another on toward love and good deeds (Hebrews 10:24)*
- *Do not slander one another (James 4:11)*
- *Do not grumble against one another (James 5:9)*
- *Confess your sins to one another (James 5:16)*
- *Pray for one another (James 5:16)*
- *Clothe yourself with humility toward one another (1 Peter 5:5)*

LEADING THE GROUP TO RELATIONSHIP

- As the leader of your group, your responsibility is always to **seek to provide a model for others to imitate**. Set an example by the way you pursue relationships with those in the group.
- **Take a genuine interest in people**. Draw people out by asking questions about something you know is going on in their life. Seek out opportunities to show an interest in people.
- **New group, new relationships!** New people coming into an FOP Group often do not know one another. Wise leaders will seek to help the group get to know one another.
- **Make meetings relational**. Try to provide some relational element in each meeting. This means planning for it.
- **Be aware of the issues that pertain to season of life**. Keep in mind the realities of each unique season of life and seek to lead in ways that reflect care for your group members. A group comprised of people who do not have children at home typically have more available time and the flexibility to spend time together than a group comprised of parents of young children or teenagers. Understanding the needs of your group will help you to set realistic goals for relating to one another.

LEADING THE GROUP TO RELATIONSHIPS— THROUGH CARE

We all need help with the basic events of life, and sometimes our need is big: at the birth of a baby, a tragic accident and hospitalization, the death of someone close. Typically, your group is going to be relationally closest to the need. As a leader, you lead in coordinating care and in so doing, you help foster deeper relationships.

You may need to talk initially with the person in need to determine whether you should mobilize the group or simply ask another individual to help in the situation. In a crisis, the FOP Group leader can inform the leadership in the church so they can help to insure that care is being provided

Some examples of practical service:

- Help a member move.
- Care for the sick or injured with meals, cleaning, errands, child-care, or simply a visit.
- Supply money in a time of genuine need.
- Provide meals and support for a family during a time of grief.
- Provide child-care to a parent who cannot afford it or has no one to help.
- Help an elderly member or single mom with basic chores.

LEADING THE GROUP TO RELATIONSHIPS— THROUGH OUTREACH

One of the great privileges of the Christian life is sharing the Gospel. Yet our relationships with unbelievers are often neglected. Investing in relationships with unbelievers is a part of being a witness of the Gospel. It is in and through these relational investments that we often have the opportunity to share the Gospel or invite someone out to our small Group or a church activity where they will hear the Gospel.

Leaders who are seeking to build Gospel-centered FOP Groups will keep this evangelistic mandate as a non-negotiable element of the group's relational life together. Groups grow closer as they seek to further the Gospel together. Find ways in which your group can work together to support the outreach efforts of the church. Pray for the unbelievers with whom you—as a group—are developing relationships with a goal of sharing the Gospel and inviting them to an appropriate church event.

LEADING THE GROUP TO RELATIONSHIPS— THROUGH PRAYING TOGETHER

Suggestions of how you can lead in prayer:

- Invite the group to state what they are asking of God. Solicit the group for specific requests.
- Encourage the group to form requests around God's promises and purposes stated in the Bible (See Hebrews 6:12–15; 2 Corinthians 1:20–22)
- Realize that many times prayer requests become opportunities for us to understand other's circumstances and what our responses to those circumstances should be.
- Restrict your prayer time, at times, to giving thanks for specific help or to praising God for His character and His deeds. It can help to begin a time like this by looking at a particular passage of Scripture. For example:
 - ➔The extent of His love (John 3:16)
 - ➔His remedy of our need (Romans 5:6; Eph. 2:1–3)
 - ➔The blessings associated with salvation (Romans 8:32; Galatians 3:14; 4:6; 5:22)

Our access to His throne of grace (Heb. 4:14–16; Eph. 3:11–12) As an aid, the 'ACTS' outline is helpful:

- ➔Adoration (praise and worship)
- ➔Confession of Sin
- ➔Thanksgiving
- ➔Supplication (making requests for others and yourself)

Some examples of prayer in Scripture:

- Luke 11:1–13
- Psalm 5:1–3
- Romans 8:26–27
- Philippians 4:6–8
- John 14:13–14
- 1 John 5:14–15

LEADING GROUP DISCUSSION

As mentioned earlier, a key element for building an FOP Group into a community of disciples of Jesus Christ is having effective discussions. Discussion leading involves asking good questions and helping the group grapple with these questions and their answers—as a group. Your role is to keep the discussion biblically focused in order to lead men and women in greater understanding of Scripture and application of its principles to their lives.

One of the main jobs of the FOP Group leader has is to facilitate discussion. There are times when the facilitator might do more talking to explain something in the material, but then they must transition to open discussion. Leaders must create an open atmosphere that invites participation of group members and values their input.

Not This: Leader doing all the talking. Group responding only to the leader.

But This: Group interacting as the leader *guides* discussion.

LEADING DISCUSSIONS

The following suggestions will aid you in leading discussions and fostering healthy group dynamics:

- Arrange the group in a circle, if possible, so that everyone can see each other. If someone separates him/herself from the group, encourage them to join in (“Make some room so John can squeeze in here.” etc.)
- Let the group know that you don’t have all the answers. If a question is asked to which you do not know the answer, tell the person you don’t know. Offer to do some research (or ask a member to research the question) and come back the next time with a response for that person.
- Let the group know that it’s okay to interrupt you at any time if they have a question and that there is no such thing as a dumb question.
- Ask for input and feedback to what you have shared.
- Direct responses or questions back to the group when they are initially directed only to you (“Let me hear what some of the rest of you think about that first. Anyone care to respond? Betty, what would you say?”)
- Try to include everyone. Ask a more reserved person what they think about the topic you are discussing. Let them know they don’t have to share if they don’t want to. (“Let’s hear from someone who hasn’t had the chance to share yet... Linda, how about you?” etc.)
- Ask “open-ended” questions as opposed to “yes or no” questions. Open-ended questions tend to promote discussion.
 - ➔ NOT: “Did you like the Bible passage for this week?”
 - ➔ INSTEAD: “What did you like about the Bible passage for this week?” or “What did you get out of it?”
- Ask for clarification or dig deeper into an answer to make it come alive.

- ➔ “Does that work in a different situation too?”
 - ➔ “That’s a good answer, but how easy is it to really do that?”
 - ➔ “Do any of the rest of you find that hard to do?”
 - ➔ “How does that work in everyday life?”
- Allow tangents, but refocus if necessary. The group may wander off from the material, but the discussion may be what’s on the heart of the group at that time. If the tangent is trivial, refocus the group back to the material. (“Well, let’s get back to our material... what do you think...”)
 - Acknowledge everyone who participates. (a nod, eye contact, or verbal encouragement, etc.)
 - Refer back to a point that someone else made. (“That’s similar to what Jane said a little while ago about letting God have control...”)
 - Use summary statements to clarify discussion. (“So, what I hear you saying is...” etc.)
 - Ask questions in a conversational tone. Do not simply read them out of a book, or say, “What did you put for question number five?” Rephrase the question to ask the same thing in a different way.

GUARDING DISCUSSIONS

While leaders are not to dominate discussions, that does not mean they are to back out of them. Appropriate input at appropriate times can help the discussion stay on track, add depth to the discussion, or tie the discussion back in to the lesson for that evening. It is the leader’s responsibility to guard the discussion—stepping in to stop inappropriate sharing. Below are a few situations to watch for...

- **Don’t allow people to confess anyone’s faults** (particularly their spouse’s) but their own. Gossiping or griping about another person is not appropriate.
- **Don’t allow doctrinal discussion to become divisive or argumentative.** Healthy discussion, even disagreement, regarding the tenets of the faith is to be encouraged but must always be attended with charity.
- **Don’t entertain negative attitudes toward the church.** The FOP Group leader is expected to support the mission of FOP Church, its philosophy of ministry, and its leadership. Encourage anyone with a specific concern to bring it to church leadership. Concerns for the church can be talked about by the FOP Group in a healthy, positive way that encourages ownership (“Is there something we could do to help in this area?” etc.)
- **Don’t allow one person’s continual problem to be the focus of the group.** There are bound to be persons in groups that require extra care. Some of these people can be cared for and ministered to within the context of a FOP Group; others may need help from someone professional or someone outside the group. Sound judgment is required here.
- **Don’t wait to share concerning information with our Pastors.** If someone shares that they are being harmed, are harming themselves, or are thinking of harming themselves or someone else, share that information IMMEDIATELY with your FOP Groups ministry head and/or the Pastors. This can be signaled on your FOP Groups Attendance Report as a “needed call back”.

THE GOAL IS APPLICATION

The goal of discussion is not simply to get new information or have a stimulating conversation about someone's ideas. We want the discussion to move from gaining a basic grasp of the material to allowing each member of the group to make personal application to his or her life. When leading the discussion in your Group, think of two simple steps:

ASSESS

Start with the author's purpose. Help the group organize discussion around the big picture of the message. Ask questions like:

- "What is the author's purpose in writing?"
- "What is the speaker's main point?"

Try to answer the question in a few simple sentences. Consider how the author accomplishes his purpose. This second step helps determine how the author has organized his thoughts and developed his material. Ask the group why they think the author makes these points. Why is he so concerned about this subject?

Encourage participants to put the author's points into their own language. This enables the group to begin the process of engaging the material on a deeper level. It also helps you, as the group leader, to know whether or not group members understand the material at a basic level.

APPLY

Application questions should encourage the group to grapple with how these ideas make a claim on their own lives. Application is the goal of your discussion. Make sure you get your group to this stage early enough to allow for significant discussion. Remember, application is the goal. Before you can get to this step, you must listen to what people are saying—how they are processing the material. Do they understand the main points and their implications?

If the group gets the sense that you are only looking for a "right" answer (i.e. the answer you want) they typically will not explore the topic together but rather they will seek to tell you what you want to hear.

Questions that only require a "yes" or "no" answer are usually ineffective. For most people, they lead the discussion nowhere. To move a discussion forward, build on the comments of the group:

- **Clarification:** "Could you restate what you said?"
- **Re-direction:** If someone is leading the discussion on a tangent, bring it back, "Thanks for your thoughts on that. I wonder if anyone else..." (restate your question).
- **Extension/open-ended:** "Could you expound on that?" "What do you think about what Heather said?" "Has anyone else ever felt conviction in this area?" "What did you do?" "How did you respond?"

Some sample application questions:

- What do the truths taught mean to you here and now?
- How does knowing this truth about God make a difference in your life?
- How can you apply this truth in your life?
- What are the implications of this to you and me?
- What must change in your life now that you understand this?
- Is there a command in this passage that we are required to obey?
- What example can we follow here?
- Where have you seen yourself fall short in these areas and how should you cultivate change?

HELPFUL QUESTIONS

Group leaders should think through the following five matters in preparation for group meetings:

- **Observation:** How can I effectively and creatively lead the group to observe what the text says?
- **Interpretation:** How can I lead the group to understand what the text means?
- **Application:** How can I lead the group to apply the text to their life?
- **Dynamic:** How can I facilitate effective discussion which leads to understanding and application?
- **Practicalities:** How can I facilitate the group meeting time in order to encourage deepening relationships?

GROUP STRUCTURE

Groups meet weekly during each session. Groups meet in a variety of places like homes, parks, restaurants, coffee shops and office buildings. FOP Groups are welcome to use our patio area and outdoor playground area for their group meetings. If your group needs childcare, it is your responsibility to set up and coordinate childcare.

New groups start every session making it easy to build community and enjoy different types of groups. No matter what your group meets about, each meeting should be made up of four things:

1. **Casual Fellowship:** Laid back time for group members to talk and get to know each other.
2. **Activity or Discussion:** This will vary based on what kind of group you're leading. It could be an activity like Frisbee or outreach or a discussion about a book or Sunday message.
3. **Prayer:** Ask for prayer requests from group members and pray at the beginning and/or the end of each group meeting.
4. **Spiritual Component:** This is what differentiates your Small Group from your neighborhood supper club. Whether it's through activities or discussion, always find a way to include the Word of God. This can be as simple as sharing something God is teaching you with the group or talking about a verse you read that week.

FOP Groups are **NOT** a place for:

- Business
- Offerings
- Unapproved materials or speakers
- Controversial topics

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

At FOP Church, we desire to be continually developing leaders in our church. One of the ways we do this through our FOP Group ministry is encouraging apprentice leaders. You, as a group leader, should consider how you can be developing and apprentice within your group.

1. **Identify a potential FOP Group leader.** Ask God for the wisdom and discernment to do this.

Characteristics and qualifications to look for:

- Loves Jesus (John 14:15), loves the Church (John 15:12), and loves the lost (John 17:8)
- Listens to others, includes others in conversation (James 1:19; Romans 15:1)
- Holds Scripture as their ultimate authority for truth and life (2 Tim. 3:16)
- Eager to serve the needs of others (Rom. 12:1-13)
- Humble (James 4:6)
- Able to teach (1 Tim. 3:2)
- Not a recent convert (1 Tim. 3:6)
- Regularly attends church services

2. **Invite the potential FOP Group leader to consider it.** Ask your potential apprentice to consider coming along side you to train for potential future group leadership. Most people will have some reservations and may even fear that they are unqualified or unprepared for the responsibilities of leadership. Discuss any of their concerns with them and make sure they also understand that you will help them develop their skills and confidence as a leader.

3. **Once there is agreement by the individual to become an apprentice, share with the group that this individual is being recognized as being the group co-leader and is being trained for future FOP Group leadership.** Encourage the apprentice leader to take advantage of church sponsored training events. Incrementally increase the level of responsibility for the apprentice. At the appropriate time, encourage the apprentice to take responsibility for their group by starting a new one or reproducing one with members of the existing group.

SIGNING UP MEMBERS FOR FOP GROUPS

Participants can sign up for an FOP Group on our **FOP Church App** by following these steps:

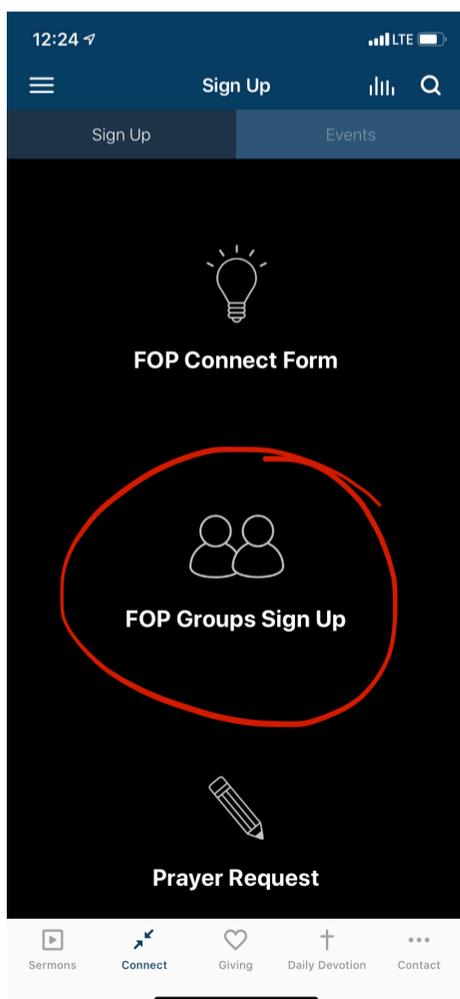
1. Open the FOP Church App.
2. Go to "Connect" at the bottom navigation.
3. Scroll down to "FOP Groups Sign Up" and click it.
4. Scroll down to the list of FOP Groups. Choose a group you'd like to sign up for and click the group.
5. Fill out the sign up form and click "Submit".
6. FOP Group leaders will receive sign ups directly via email.

Participants can sign up for an FOP Group on our FOP Church **website** by following these steps:

1. Go to fopchurch.net/fopgroups in your web browser.
2. Scroll down to the list of FOP Groups being offered. Choose a group you'd like to sign up for and click the group.
3. Fill out the sign up form and click "Submit".

SIGNING UP TO BE AN FOP GROUP LEADER

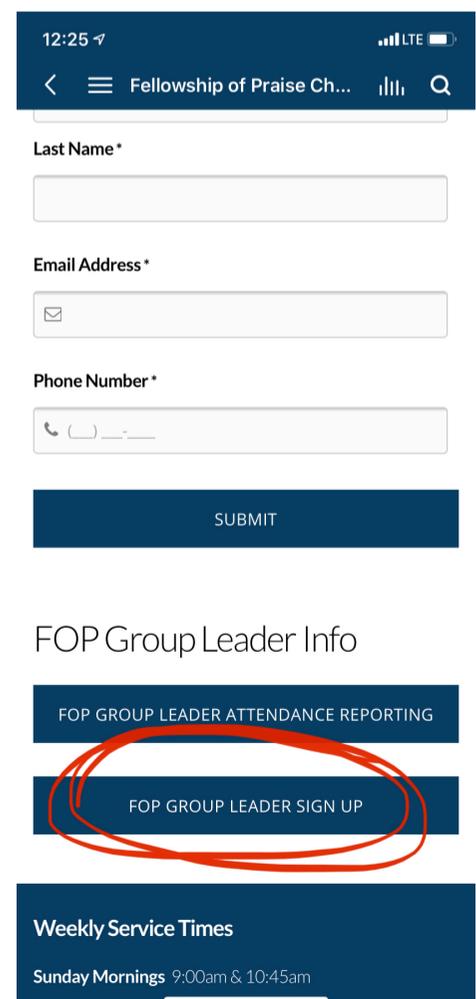
If you wish to host an FOP Group, you **MUST** sign up on our FOP Church App or on our website (fopchurch.net/fopgroups) in order to be added to our list of groups being offered in each session. Below are the instructions for signing up to be an FOP Group leader on the FOP Church App:



Open the FOP Church App and navigate to "Connect" at the bottom of the screen.

Scroll down to "FOP Groups Sign Up" and click it.

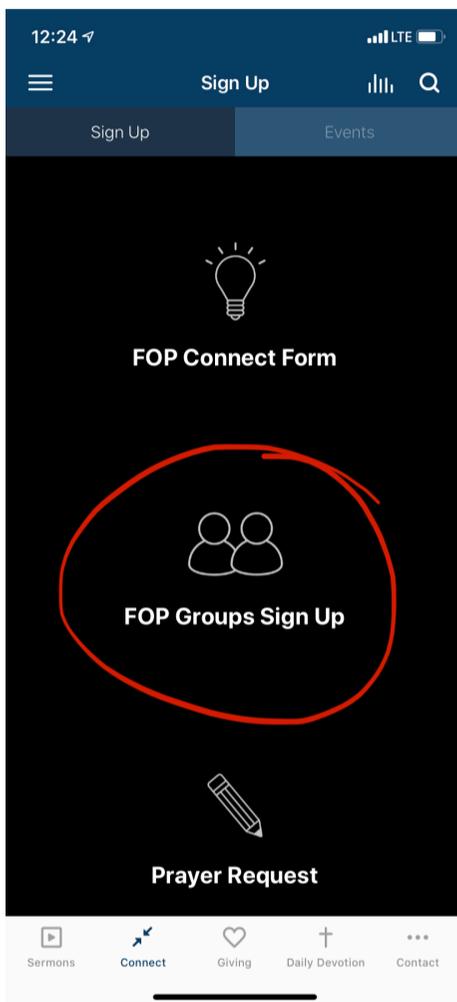
Scroll down to the bottom of the page for FOP Groups Sign Ups until you see the "FOP Group Leader Sign Up" button and click it. Fill out the form and click "Submit".



REPORTING FOP GROUP ATTENDANCE

For our own reporting and records, we want each FOP Group leader to report their attendance after each session. This is NOT in an effort to measure the success of one group over another, or to determine if a group should be cancelled, etc. Even if only 2-3 people are meeting each week in a group, we simply want to have some records of attendance.

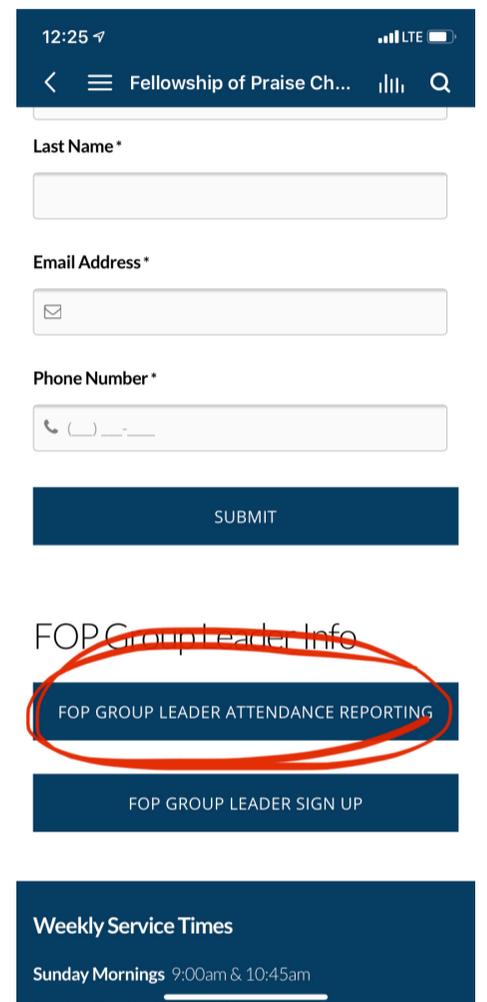
You can report your attendance on our website at fopchurch.net/fopgroups, or here's the steps to report your attendance each week on our FOP Church App:



Open the FOP Church App and navigate to "Connect" at the bottom of the screen.

Scroll down to "FOP Groups Sign Up" and click it.

Scroll down to the bottom of the page for FOP Groups Sign Ups until you see the "FOP Group Leader Attendance Reporting" button and click it. Fill out the form and click "Submit".



APPENDIX

WE BELIEVE THAT...

- The Holy Bible, consisting of both Old and New Testaments, is the inspired revelation of God to man. Therefore, the Scriptures are the infallible, authoritative rule for all matters of faith and conduct.
- In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead. That He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor.
- All have sinned and come short of the glory of God and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins.
- Justification, regeneration, and the new birth produced through faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.
- In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ, through the Word and by the Holy Spirit.
- Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people.
- The Holy Spirit baptism, as experienced in the early Christian Church, is promised to all believers in Christ, imparting to them spiritual gifts (charisma), to edify the body of Christ and equip for Christian service. This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the new birth and enables the believer to receive a spiritual language (glossolalia) for personal edification and prayer.
- The Church of Jesus Christ is the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of the great commission. Each believer, having been born of the Spirit, is a valuable part of the body of Christ. We further believe in a called and ordained five-fold ministry for the purpose of the evangelization of the world and the edifying of the Body of Christ.
- In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- Divine healing is provided for all in the Atonement.
- In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet.
- In the second coming of Christ to receive the church unto himself and rule and reign forever. The return of Jesus Christ is imminent and will precede his reign upon the earth and the final judgments. Afterward there will be a new heaven and new earth.

DOCTRINAL COMMITMENTS

- Repentance (Mark 1:15; Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19)
- Justification (Romans 5:1; Titus 3:7)
- Regeneration (Titus 3:5)
- New Birth (John 3:3; 1 Peter 1:23; 1 John 3:9)
- Sanctification subsequent to justification (Romans 5:2; 1 Corinthians 1:30; 1 Thessalonians 4:3; Hebrews 13:12)
- Holiness (Luke 1:75; 1 Thessalonians 4:7; Hebrews 12:14)
- Water Baptism (Matthew 28:19; Mark 1:9, 10; John 3:22, 23; Acts 8:36, 38)
- Baptism with the Holy Spirit subsequent to cleansing; the enduement of power for service (Matthew 3:11; Luke 24:49, 53; Acts 1:4-8)
- The speaking in tongues as the Spirit gives utterance as the initial evidence of the baptism in the Holy Spirit (John 15:26; Acts 2:4; 10:44-46; 19:1-7)
- The Church (Exodus 19:5, 6; Psalm 22:22; Matthew 16:13-19; 28:19, 20; Acts 1:8; 2:42-47; 7:38; 20:28; Romans 8:14-17; 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17; 12:12-31; 2 Corinthians 6:16-18; Ephesians 2:19-22; 3:9, 21; Philippians 3:10; Hebrews 2:12; 1 Peter 2:9; 1 John 1:6,7; Revelation 21:2, 9; 22:17)
- Spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12:1, 7, 10, 28, 31; 14:1)
- Signs following the believers (Mark 16:17-20; Romans 15:18, 19; Hebrews 2:4)
- Fruit of the Spirit (Romans 6:22; Galatians 5:22, 23; Ephesians 5:9; Philippians 1:11)
- Divine healing provided for all in the Atonement (Psalm 103:3; Isaiah 53:4, 5; Matthew 8:17; James 5:14-16; 1 Peter 2:24)
- The Lord's Supper (Luke 22:17-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)
- Washing the saints' feet (John 13:4-17; 1 Timothy 5:9, 10)
- Tithing and giving (Genesis 14:18-20; 28:20-22; Malachi 3:10; Luke 11:42; 1 Corinthians 16:2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-9; Hebrews 7:1-21)

NOTES
