

# DISCIPLESHIP GROUP



## GUIDE

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"We proclaim Him, warning and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ." Colossians 1:28

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# DISCIPLESHIP GROUP OVERVIEW

## WHAT IS A DISCIPLESHIP GROUP?

A Discipleship Group is an intentional gathering that connects people in relationships that grow their faith. A Discipleship Group is a gender-specific, closed group of 3-5 believers who meet together regularly to pursue spiritual growth and healthy relationships.

In other words, Discipleship Groups foster relationships that facilitate discipleship.

## WHAT TO EXPECT?

- Give yourself fully to the Lord during this time as you anticipate a season of spiritual growth.
- Meet 2-4 times a month as a Discipleship Group (60-90 min.)
- Commit to the 4 weekly disciplines (Bible Reading, Prayer, Accountability, and Scripture Memory).
- Have a group atmosphere of confidentiality, honesty, and transparency.
- Pray weekly for fellow Discipleship Group members and those in your life who don't know Jesus.
- Groups are drawn together by common interests, stages of life, a specific topic or a particular demographic.

## MBC DISCIPLESHIP VISION

Leading believers to greater levels of maturity in their faith as they pursue Christ and His Kingdom. To fulfill the call of the great commission laid out in Matthew 28:16-20. Specifically, the call in verses 19-20, **“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”**

# STRATEGY & LEADERSHIP

## OUR STRATEGY

We want to identify qualified leaders to disciple 3-5 believers in gender-specific groups toward maturity and challenging them to discover a field of ministry. This ministry is intended to connect believers needing to grow in their faith with those who are mature.

## WHAT IS A DISCIPLESHIP GROUP LEADER?

- A member of Murdale Baptist Church that is approved by the Pastoral Staff.
- One who is prepared to give testimony of their faith.
- One who is prepared to invest in the lives of fellow believers in Christ Jesus.
- One who will commit to meeting monthly with Pastoral Staff to discuss progress/issues (to be discipled as leaders.)
- One who will pray for their disciples regularly.
- One who commits to personal spiritual growth.
- One who will use only approved curriculum from the Pastoral Staff.
- One who will facilitate group discussion.
- One who will commit to keep matters discussed confidential.
- One who will commit to meet 2-4 times/month with their disciples.
- One who will commit to lead for 12-18 months.

**Leadership is a choice**, and it is one we hope you will prayerfully consider. Being a discipleship group leader is not another program for us to plug into the mass population of our church. This is intended for a select few. It is not a position of status, popularity, or power. Leadership is not just for the extroverts or the outgoing. It is a personal commitment to brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus.

This commitment is meant to be meaningful. This will be a season of spiritual growth for you as a leader and for those you disciple.

This packet is to help you, a potential leader, understand the commitment we're asking from you as a representative of our church and our church leadership. We expect a lot from our leaders because this is not a task taken lightly in Scripture. James 3:1 tells us, **“Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.”**

Still interested? Great! Keep reading to find out more. Please know that we're praying for you as you consider this commitment!

# DISCIPLESHIP GROUP LEADER COVENANT

Thank you for your interest in serving as a Discipleship Group Leader at Murdale Baptist Church. Understand that as a Discipleship Group Leader you will be viewed by those in your group and other members within our congregation as a leader in the church. As a result, we ask that you enter into covenant with the Pastoral Staff and other Discipleship Group Leaders by making the following commitments:

1. I will embody and reflect the values, beliefs, and principles of Murdale Baptist Church and will submit to the leadership of the Pastoral Staff.
2. I will faithfully attend Murdale Baptist Church worship services and intentionally identify and greet those in my Discipleship Group.
3. I will make my Group a priority by:
  - A. Keeping my group meeting and developing mature believers
  - B. Preparing for my Discipleship Group beforehand each meeting
  - C. Ensure that my group meets at least 24 times a year
4. I understand that I am responsible for the care of my Discipleship Group. As a result, I will do the following:
  - A. Pray for the individuals in my group and encourage group members to pray for one another
  - B. Follow up with each person in my group as needed or pass along information to the Pastoral Staff
  - C. Encourage my Discipleship Group to take steps forward in their faith journey
5. I will strive to create an environment of growth in my Discipleship Group by:
  - A. Involving each member in group discussions
  - B. Provide a safe, comfortable and welcoming environment
  - C. Committed to maintaining a confidential environment
  - D. Beginning and ending on time set by you

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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# DISCIPLESHIP GROUP LEADER APPLICATION

Before submitting an application we ask that you prayerfully consider all the commitments included with being a Discipleship Group leader. Talk with your spouse and evaluate the commitments being asked of you. Please type your answers to all the following questions and email them to the church office at [secretary@murdalebaptist.org](mailto:secretary@murdalebaptist.org) for review from the Pastoral Staff.

**1. Why do you want to be a Discipleship Group Leader?**

**2. What other ministries are you involved in at Murdale Baptist Church?**

**3. Have you ever been through a discipleship group? If so, how did that help grow your faith?**

**4. Briefly share what you do to grow spiritually on your own.**

**5. Briefly share with us how you came to faith in Christ Jesus.**

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have any questions concerning the application please contact us at the church office (618-529-5800).