# DISCIPLESHIP GROUP MULTIPLY GUIDE

HARVEST BIBLE CHAPEL



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## **D-GROUP MULTIPLY GUIDE**

## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE:

As you approach the final months of your D-Group, it's important to look to the future to consider how you can invest in others just as the people in your group have invested in you. Take a moment and consider the last months. Think of the peaks and valleys you have been through. Think about the growth you have seen in your relationship with Jesus because of this group. Think about how significant the relationships are with the members of you group.

When we consider all the benefits, why would you want to mess up a good thing? It's normal for our initial response to be to stay together, but aren't you so glad that the disciples didn't do that? They left their community so others could find it. All throughout the Bible we see a theme of people being called to live on mission. They never allow the blessings of the gospel to stop with them. Instead they embrace the promise God gave to Abraham that we are blessed to be a blessing.

With this idea in mind, think about your family, friends, Community Group members, co-workers and more. Who in your life would benefit from a group like this?

We know that it can be intimidating to lead a D-Group on your own. That is why we developed the D-Group Multiply Guide. This is an interactive booklet to help you transition from your current group into your future groups.

# This booklet will help facilitate four group discussions over the next months:

CONVERSATION 1 – Why, Who, and When

Approximately 12 weeks before multiplication date

**CONVERSATION 2 – Identify Potential Members**Approximately 11 weeks before multiplication date

**CONVERSATION 3 – Invite Potential Members**Approximately 9 weeks before multiplication date

**CONVERSATION** 4 – **Celebrate and Commission** Last week

We have included helpful episodes from the Group Leader Podcast. These episodes will help maximize the conversation you have within the group. You will find these podcasts on the leader preparation pages as you work through this guide.

## LEADER PREPARATION FOR WEEK 1

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#### TIMELINE

APPROXIMATELY 12 WEEKS BEFORE MULTIPLICATION DATE



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## WHY WE MULTIPLY?

Have group members read each of these three verses: Genesis 12:1-3, Matthew 28:18-20, and 2 Timothy 2:1-2.

All throughout the Bible, we see an identity of people being sent on mission. God never intended for the Gospel to stop with us, but for us to take it to others and make disciples who make disciples. As believers, we launch out of the comforts of our current community to create a place where new people can experience the same blessings we have. Jesus left his heavenly community to come to earth to save us. The disciples left their community in Jerusalem to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth. And most likely someone in your life left the comfort of their community to invest in you. We now have the privilege to join this movement as we provide the same life-changing community to others that we have received from this group.

## WHO WILL MULTIPLY?

As we prepare to multiply, which best describes your current posture?

- Green Light I am ready to start my own group!
- Yellow Light I am willing, but have some cautions.
- Red Light I do not feel ready to lead my own group.

There can be several barriers that may prevent us from multiplying. Below are six of the most common. Which multiplication barrier best describes how you feel and why?

- Theology: I'm not sure if God has called me to multiply.
- Relationships: I'm not sure I want to leave my current group.
- Details: I'm not sure how to multiply and start a new group.
- Qualification: I'm not sure I feel qualified to lead others.
- Time: I'm not sure I feel like I have the time to lead others.
- Interest: I'm not sure I know who I would invite.

As you talk through your current barrier, identify if you are telling *God* "Not Now," or if God is telling *you*, "Not Now." *Discuss: Should this barrier prevent you from starting a new group in some capacity and why?* 

/		,
☐ Adult D-Group (physical meeting) ☐	Adult D-Grou	p (digital meeting)
☐ Student D-Group	Other	
If you're not going to start your own surround yourself in biblical community mission disciple?		
WHEN WILL WE MULTIPLY?		
WITER WITE WE MOETIFET:		
Based on our conversation today, what we for our group to multiply and start new g		best multiply date
Multiply Date: MONTH	DAYY	YEAR
As you look forward to starting a new potential launch date for your new group		could be the best
Launch Date: MONTH	DAYY	EAR
Why are you thinking that date?		
NEXT WEEK		
We will brainstorm names of people that into our next D-Groups. These people need F.A.I.T.H. (See pg. 8). Over the next week, proto mind names who you could invite and	d to be men ar ay specificall	nd women of y for God to bring
Also over the coming weeks, we will cont	tinue to rotat	e who leads the

group. Before launching out, we will all have the opportunity to facilitate

the time through our five weekly practices.

(Example meeting on pg. 18).

If you plan to lead a D-Group, what type of aroup will you lead?

## AM I READY TO LEAD A D-GROUP?

In the first conversation, you have just discussed when your group will multiply and when you will launch out and start new groups. This conversation can come with mixed emotions. There could be sadness over the group ending, excitement about new people getting to experience D-Groups, and unknowns of stepping out into leadership.

Though multiplying is a good thing, it still can be a difficult transition anytime we leave community to help others find it. That is why we recorded a podcast episode just for this topic. This conversation will help you navigate through the situations that face every group. If you are having some hesitancies in multiplying, take time this week as to listen to this podcast as you pray.

## **BONUS PODCAST:** AM I READY TO LEAD A D-GROUP?





In this episode, we cover the common struggles people have as they consider multiplying their D-Group:

- Why it's okay to be sad about the group ending
- Lies that leaders believe about starting their own group
- What to do if you don't feel ready to lead alone
- What to do if you aren't planning to lead a group

# LEADER PREPARATION FOR CONVERSATION 2

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## **TIMELINE**

APPROXIMATELY 11 WEEKS BEFORE MULTIPLICATION DATE



**PODCAST IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL MEMBERS** D-GROUP MULTIPLY GUIDE - CONVERSATION 2





## IDENTIFY POTENTIAL MEMBERS

## As a group, read the article below and walk through the exercise.

As with everything in the discipleship process, we want to follow the way of Jesus. Before He selected disciples, He spent time in prayer (Luke 6:12-16), so that's where we should begin. Ask God to make clear to you the 2-4 people you should invite into your D-Group.

Remember that the word disciple means "learner," so begin by asking God to send you a group of men or women who have a desire to learn and grow. This may be someone who has been following Jesus for two months or two decades. Some of the best people to invite into your D-Group are those who don't know what the Christian life is all about, but they are "all about" the Christian life.

On the next page, we will walk through a group exercise to identify potential people in our lives that we can invite into our future D-Groups. As you write down who you want to pray for, you want to look for men and women of F.A.I.T.H. (Faithful, Available, Intentional, Teachable, and Hungry). Here are three questions to help you discern if they would be good for your next D-Group.

- Are they faithfully following Jesus in the current stage of their faith journey?
- Are they available enough to meet weekly and commit to the daily practices of a D-Group?
- Do they display a humble desire to learn from those around them?

Each member will then fill in the black box with a list of potential D-Group members who they would answer positively for the three questions above. These people may be friends, family, neighbors, or co-workers. The two most helpful places to begin thinking through future members are your current Community Group and serving team.

As you pray, take time this week to fill out your personal box. Next week each member will share their names and why they would be a good person to invite into their group. As other members share, write their names and their list in the blue boxes so that you can pray for them in the weeks ahead.

## **GROUP EXERCISE**

In the **black box**, write the names of people you think you should invite into your next D-Group.

In the blue boxes, write the names of those your fellow group members are planning to ask so that you can pray for them by name

MY POTENTIA	AL D-GROUP:
CURRENT MEMBER:	CURRENT MEMBER:
CURRENT MEMBER:	CURRENT MEMBER:
TWO WEEKS	
pend the next two weeks praying	over these names. If you do not ha
eople because our next group c	ovide one. Hold off on inviting the onversation will cover how we c

ite people in a way that sets our future D-Groups up for success.

## NEXT WEEK \_

Who wants to lead our next D-Group Meeting? (See the Example Meeting on pg. 18)

## **D-GROUP IDEAL SIZE**

Your current group has been meeting for almost a year, you have set a multiplication date, and you are brainstorming names to invite to your group. After you ask yourself, "Who should I invite?", the second question is usually, "How many people should I invite?".

## **BONUS PODCAST:**

## HOW TO SELECT THE RIGHT PEOPLE FOR YOUR NEXT D-GROUP



In this episode, we discuss the following:

- How to discern if they are F.A.I.T.H.ful
- What to do when you don't have many names
- Why you should disciple in groups, not one-on-one
- How many people should you include in your group



After you have your second conversation as a group about identifying potential members, take a listen to this podcast to go deeper on the topic.

# LEADER PREPARATION FOR CONVERSATION 3

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APPROXIMATELY 9 WEEKS BEFORE MULTIPLICATION DATE



PODCAST
INVITING POTENTIAL MEMBERS
D-GROUP MULTIPLY GUIDE - CONVERSATION 3





## INVITING POTENTIAL MEMBERS

## As a group, read the article below and answer the questions below.

A clear and faithful D-Group invitation is the foundation of a healthy group. A good D-Group invitation involves asking the **right person** and setting the **right expectations**. If we do not make sure to do both of these things, we as leaders will have to spend a significant amount of time getting the group to understand its purpose and expected commitment level.

## INVITING THE RIGHT PERSON

As we mentioned a couple weeks ago, we are looking for men and women of **F.A.I.T.H.** It is important for you to make an honest assessment of those you are planning to ask. You may say something like, "I think D-Group will be what they need to become faithful." This should not be someone we push into D-Group, but instead allow them to continue to grow in a Community Group.

A D-Group invitation should never be an opportunity to prove faithfulness, but always extended as a response to faithfulness. Inviting someone who is not *F.A.I.T.H.ful* will negatively impact the individual and the commitment level of the group.

What do you feel like God has revealed to you about where each of the potential members are in being F.A.I.T.H.-ful?

What, if any, concern do you have about any potential member(s)?

## SETTING THE RIGHT EXPECTATIONS

Another part of a D-Group invitation is to set the right expectations. There is a popular phrase, "What you win them with, you win them to." People are joining your group based off your summary of its purpose and description. Your invitation sets their expectation. Therefore, if we give an incomplete picture of a D-Group, we can expect an incomplete commitment from the group.

We must then make sure that the vision of the group is clear and the commitment level of the group is understood. When we faithfully describe a D-Group and people join with a clear vision and high commitment, it will be much easier for your group to grow together and multiply in the future.

On page 14 you will see the D-Group Overview. This shares the vision of the D-Group, the commitment level, and the meeting details. As you begin to have discussions with potential members, use the D-Group Overview on page 14 as a guide. When you finish explaining the group concept, a helpful question to ask is "Would this be something that you are interested in and able to commit to?"

How and when do you expect to invite the people on your list to join your future D-Group?

#### **BONUS PODCAST:**

HOW TO INVITE PEOPLE TO JOIN YOUR D-GROUP



- Why your invitation is so important
- Common mistakes when people invite potential members
- How to respond when people aren't sure
- How to make sure you get an authentic "yes"

#### **OVER THE NEXT 4 WEEKS**

Use the D-Group Overview as a guide and invite your potential members to join your group. Do your best to invite them face-to-face (in-person or via video call).

## **NEXT WEEK**

Who wants to lead our D-Group Meeting? (See the Example Meeting on pg.18)

# LEADER PREPARATION FOR CONVERSATION 4

# **D-GROUP OVERVIEW**

SCAN FOR A **DIGITAL VERSION** 



## WHAT IS A D-GROUP?

A D-Group is a gender-specific, closed group of 3-5 believers that meet weekly for 9-18 months for a season of accelerated spiritual transformation. (Matthew 28:18-20)

## WHAT TO EXPECT?

The image below shows what D-Group members commit to weekly in their personal life (weekly practices + weekly meeting) and how God will grow them in four different areas during the upcoming season (On Mission Disciple).

## **WEEKLY PRACTICES**

SCRIPTURE MEMORY **BIBLE READING** 

H.E.A.R. JOURNAL ON MISSION ACCOUNTABILITY

**PRAYER** 

**WEEKLY PRACTICES** (WEEKLY INPUT)



## ON MISSION DISCIPLE QUALITIES

**UNIQUELY PLANTED DEEPLY ROOTED** CAREFULLY PRUNED PERSISTENTLY FRUITFUL

ON MISSION **DISCIPLE** (LIFETIME OUTPUT)

## WHAT IS THE COMMITMENT?

#### Members will...

- Meet together weekly (60-90 mins)
- · Commit to the five weekly practices
- · Contribute to an atmosphere of confidentiality and transparency
- Pray and invest in helping others meet and
- Pray and consider how you will best make disciples once this current group multiplies

## WHEN WILL WE MEET?

START DATE:	_//		
WEEKLY MEETING: _	DATE	@	
LOCATION:	DAY OF THE WEEK		TIME

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#### TIMELINE

D-GROUP MULTIPLY PODCAST





## CELEBRATE & COMMISSION

CELEBRATE
Have each person share their response to each of the questions below.
How has this group been with you through the peaks and valleys of this last year?
How have you seen other members in your group grow during this season?
As sad as it is to no longer meet weekly, what are you looking forward to most about launching your D-Group?
COMMISSION
After you have celebrated as a group, use the following exercise to know who and what to pray for in the coming weeks. Have each leader share their answer to the two questions below. Encourage the whole group to write down what each person shares on page 17.
Who is currently committed to your group for the upcoming year?
When will your future D-Group start?/
How can this group pray for you specifically as you step into leading this group? (Use page 17 to record each request.)

	LEADER NAME:
D-GROUP 1	PRAYER REQUEST:
۵	GROUP MEMBERS:
	LEADED NAME.
D-GROUP 2	PRAYER REQUEST:
D-GR	GROUP MEMBERS:
	LEADED NAME.
UP 3	PRAYER REQUEST:
D-GROUP	GROUP MEMBERS:
4	PRAYER REQUEST:
D-GROUP	PRATER REQUEST.
Ō	GROUP MEMBERS:
	LEADER NAME:
ъ го	PRAYER REQUEST:
D-GROUP	FRAIER REQUEST.
۵	GROUP MEMBERS:

# HOW DO I START MY NEW GROUP?

## **EXAMPLE D-GROUP MEETING**

Every week we will follow the same rhythm that includes each of the five weekly disciplines. The example below is meant to be a helpful guide, but it is far from an exact science. Ultimately, the pace and content of the conversation is set by the discernment of the leader. The times will vary depending on the length of your D-Group meeting and the amount of people in your group.

## **NORMAL D-GROUP RHYTHM**

#### FELLOWSHIP =

① 10 minutes Spend the first ten minutes catching up. If you want, you can be more structured in this time and have each person share his or her "high" and "low" of the week.

## SCRIPTURE MEMORY -

② 5-10 minutes After everyone quotes the week's memory verse, ask, "As you meditated on this verse, what stood out to you?" We want to store God's Word in our heart, not just be able to recite it.

## BIBLE READING AND H.E.A.R. JOURNALS =

② 25-35 minutes As you share H.E.A.R. Journals, a great question to ask is: "Which of your H.E.A.R. Journals stood out the most to you this week and what are you doing about it?"

## ACCOUNTABILITY =

① 10-20 minutes In addition to our H.E.A.R. Journal question, we always ask:

## "How have you prayed for and invested in your ONE this week?"

If there is additional time, you can discuss a question from the Accountability Questions on page 18.

## PRAYER -

① 10 minutes Finish the time by having each person share something **specific** and **personal** that the group can pray for.

## SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES -

If your group is going through a certain resource in addition to the above sections, this is the time to discuss it.

As you prepare to start your new group, we want to help you as you go make disciples who make disciples. Here are three simple steps that will help us partner together as you start your group.

#### **STEP 1:** REGISTER YOUR GROUP

1. Once you know the members of your group, take about 5 minutes to tell us about your group. Go to *harvestbible.org/grouplaunch*. We want to send you practical tips as you lead.

## STEP 2: CHECK OUT THE LEADER RESOURCES PAGE

2. Get familiar with the leaders resources page — harvestbible.org/leaderresources

## **STEP 3: START YOUR GROUP**

3. It's time to schedule your first meeting. We're praying for you as you go out on mission.

