

GAME PLAN



groups

WOMEN'S

GETTING STARTED

Have you ever been on a road trip with friends and realized no one has directions? Ever been on a team tasked with an important project but no one has any idea how to make it happen. We've all been there and it's not a good experience. The reality is, for a group of people to have a good experience getting where they want to go or accomplishing the project in front of them they need a plan. We believe the same is true for your community group. We want to help you and your group have a great experience together. So, we created a game plan just for you.

This plan provides enough structure to help you navigate your group experience from Grouplink all the way to your last meeting.

But don't worry, its not complicated or rigid. The Game Plan consists of a suggestion for what to do with your group each week that you are together. As you'll notice, it's broken down into 4 Quarters (yearly quarters) that you go through while in a women's group. In addition to the weekly guide you will find "wins" for each quarter that help you and your group connect relationally and grow spiritually. Each "win" is something we've discovered all great groups are sure to do together. We want to help you win as a group leader. We want to help you and your group have a great experience together. We believe running this Game Plan will help you get where you want to go and have a great timing getting there!

WOMEN'S GROUPS GAME PLAN

MEET YOUR NEW GROUP AT GROUPLINK

Use the app *GroupMe* to communicate with your group

1ST QUARTER (SEPT-DEC)

- Week #1** Social
- Week #2-5** Starter Guide & Group Agreement
- Week #6-11** Spiritual Growth Study
- Week #12** Serve
- Week #13** Plan Your Groups Retreat/Share
- Week #14** Celebrate

- WIN #1** Community Starter Guide Sign Group Agreement
- WIN #2** Get together outside of your normal group time
- WIN #3** Serve Together at a Be Rich Partner

2ND QUARTER (JAN-MID-MARCH)

- Week #1** Retreat
- Week #2-7** Spiritual Growth
- Week #8** Rest
- Week #9** Celebrate

- WIN #4** Spiritual Growth Group Study
- WIN #5** Group Retreat

3RD QUARTER (MID-MARCH-MAY)

- Week #1** Social
- Week #2-6** Spiritual Growth Study
- Week #7** Ending Well #1: Apprentice
- Week #8** Communion
- Week #9** Celebrate
Confirm summer plans and adjust expectations for the summer

- WIN #6** Choose Your Group's Apprentice
- WIN #7** Host an Invite Event

4TH QUARTER (JUNE-AUGUST)

Choose one of these options:

1. Meet weekly and go through a group study everyone decides to do together. Then use the Ending Well #2 guide for your last group meeting
2. Decide to take the summer off. If you decide to do this please have one meeting and use the Ending Well #2 guide to celebrate all that God has done in your group over the past year.

*Make plans to restart your group in late August or return to GroupLink to join another group.

- WIN #8** Ending Well

BE A CHAMPION
Expand Your Group

BREAKING IT DOWN

PLAYS & WINS

PLAYS

Each quarter of the Women's Groups Game Plan contains weekly suggestions or plays you can run with your group. These are common activities that community groups engage in together. If you have been in a community group before you've likely done some of these plays but some of the plays will probably be new. Each play is referred to with a one-word name and below you will see the names of each play with a short explanation along with examples.

Play #1

LEARN

To grow in our understanding and love of God, each other and our community

- Sermon Questions
- Group/Bible Studies, Books, etc.

Play #2

SHARE

To continually hear what is happening in each other's life and pray for each other

- Begin by enjoying some social time together
- Go around the circle one by one and allow each person to answer these 4 questions:
 - How is your relationship with God?
How are things at work?
 - What is one thing we can pray about for you?
 - Have each person pray for the person on their left
- Once everyone has shared and been prayed for, close in prayer to end the night.

Play #3

ENRICH

To improve the quality and enjoyment of group relationships and intimacy with God

- Assessments: Spiritual Gifts
Assessments, Personality Assessments
- Game Night, Social Night

Play #4

REST

To intentionally not meet as a group

- Take a break and allow group members to have this time for themselves

Play #5

RE:GROUP

To reconnect at the beginning of each semester

- Have Fun: Play a Game (Heads Up, Charades, Catch Phrase, etc.)
- Catch Up: Share your Highs/Lows since the last time you met
- Look Ahead: Go over your group's semester schedule & 'Wins'

Play #6

SOCIAL

To relationally connect

- Have a cookout/swim party at someone's house or neighborhood clubhouse
- Host a game night, go to a concert, movie, or paint class, or attend a UGA event together

Play #7

SERVE

To go out together and “do good” to others

- Check out our ‘Be Rich’ partners and volunteer at one of them
- Serve someone in your area or someone a group members knows

Play #8

INVITE

To intentionally open your group to people not connected to Athens Church

- Invite friends and neighbors over for a cookout/swim party
- Host a game night, dessert/coffee themed party, or tailgate party

Play #9

CELEBRATE

To end each semester by having fun and highlighting the ways you all have connected relationally and grown spiritually

- Enjoy a fun dinner together (not at a restaurant but at someone’s house)
- Use the following questions to help your group remember and enjoy God’s work in their lives
 - What have you seen or heard in this group that has encouraged you to grow spiritually?
 - What are some ways that we have connected relationally?
 - What are some ways we have cared for each other?
 - What are some steps, relationally or spiritually, you have seen people take in this group?
- Also, be sure to acknowledge birthdays and anniversaries of group members that happened during the semester
- End the night with a prayer of thanks for what God has done and the steps group members have taken over the past 3-4 months.

WINS

“What are the common things that help groups have a great experience?” This is a great question and one we often get asked. The good news is we have an answer. Specifically, we have 8 answers or “wins” that we have included as part of the Game Plan. Do these with your group to win as a group leader and to help your group have a great experience!

Win #1

START WELL

GO THROUGH THE “COMMUNITY” STARTER GUIDE & SIGNING THE COMMUNITY GROUP AGREEMENT

Win #2

GET TOGETHER

OUTSIDE OF YOUR NORMAL GROUP MEETING TIME

- Go to dinner, grab coffee, or have a game night, etc.

Win #3

SERVE TOGETHER

AT ONE OF OUR BE RICH PARTNERS

- Check out Berich.org to find one of our partners and set up a time to go and serve at that organization together. Maybe go to dinner afterwards.

Win #4

SPIRITUAL GROWTH STUDY (3-5 SESSIONS)

- Something that equips and encourages your group to read the scriptures, pray and listen to the Holy Spirit (Private Disciplines)

Win #5

GROUP RETREAT

- Weekend trip, an overnight trip or do a “stay-cation” by getting together for dinner on Friday night and then spend most of Saturday together

Win #6

CHOOSE YOUR GROUP'S APPRENTICE(S)

- Use the “Ending Well Guide #1” to help your group select an apprentice
- You can find the Ending Well Guide at acgroupleaders.com/endingwell

Win #7

HOST AN INVITE EVENT

- Plan a fun gathering and invite friends, neighbors and co-workers to come
 - Cookout, Game Night, etc.

Win #8

ENDING WELL

- Share Night
- [Communion](#)
- Celebrate Change: Ending Well Guide #2 (Last group meeting)
- You can find the Ending Well Guide at acgroupleaders.com/endingwell

Be a Champion

EXPAND YOUR GROUP

- Your one group is ready and willing to multiply and become two new groups!
- Leaders who win the championship will be invented to the very special “Champions Dinner” held once a year!

GETTING THERE

COMMUNICATION & GOALS

COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR GROUP

Communication is a key element for your group to have a great group experience. To help your group stay connected and informed we encourage you to use the following guide:

1. Use the app “GroupMe” to send weekly reminders
2. Use a Google doc to share your semester schedule
3. During each Re:Group session review the Women’s Group Game Plan

GOALS FOR WOMEN’S GROUPS

When my group finishes the game plan, what are some signs that I’ve lead well and we’ve had a successful group experience?

1. Collectively – the group has cared for each other
2. Collectively – the group has had fun together
3. Individually – each person has grow in their relationship with Jesus
4. Relationally – each person has experienced authentic friendships
5. Future Group Leaders: One woman besides the group leader is planning to lead a Women’s Group starting at the next GroupLink

POSTURES OF A LEADER

1. Humble
2. Teachable
3. Authentic
4. Intentional

3 TO THRIVE

- 1. Pray**
 - Regularly pray for your group members, 3x/week
- 2. Care**
 - Consistently communicate with your group (use communications guide above)
 - Reach out/help out when something happens to your group
- 3. Follow**
 - The Game Plan we give you & where God leads you