

GAME PLAN



groups

COLLEGE

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 CollegeLink through your first two semesters together! 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 2 halves (or semesters) In addition to the weekly guide you will find "wins" for each half 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!

As an FYI College groups only meet on average about 12 times a semester due to holidays and breaks! Following a plan will help you make your semester count!

COLLEGE GROUPS GAME PLAN

1ST HALF

(1ST SEMESTER TOGETHER)

Week #1-5 Starter Guide

Week #6-10 Spiritual Growth Study
Spiritual Growth Ideas:
[Sermon Discussion Questions](#)
[Studies and Resources](#)
 (Lots of free resources and ideas)
[Celebration of Discipline](#)

Week #11 Share Night

Week #12 Celebrate
 Discuss and adjust expectations for next semester, plan your retreat for the 2nd half

WIN #1 Community Starter Guide
Sign Group Agreement

WIN #2 Get together outside of your normal group time

WIN #3 Meet 1-on-1 with students

2ND HALF

(2ND SEMESTER TOGETHER)

Week #1 Re:Group

Week #2-6 Relationship and Purity Study
[New Rules for Love, Sex, and Dating](#)
[Single-Dating-Engaged-Married](#)
[Swipe Right: The Life and Death Power of Sex and Romance](#)

Week #7 Retreat or Serve

Week #8-11 Spiritual Growth Study or Learn
Learn Ideas:
[StrengthsFinder 2.0](#)
[Myers Briggs Type Indicator](#)
[Enneagram](#)
[DISC](#)
[How We Love](#)
[The Five Love Languages](#)

Week #12 Celebrate
 Discuss and adjust expectations for next semester

WIN #1 Relationship and Purity Study

WIN #2 Retreat (or out of the ordinary social) / Serve somewhere

WIN #3 Get together outside of normal group time (as a group or 1-on-1)

BREAKING IT DOWN

PLAYS & WINS

PLAYS

Each half of College 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

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)
- Please ask your Groups Director for ideas

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 3 questions:
 - How is your relationship with God? How are things at school?
 - What is one thing we can pray about for you?
 - Have each person pray for the person on his or her left
- Once everyone has shared and been prayed for, close in prayer to end the night.

Play #3

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 #4

LEARN

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

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

Play #5

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 #6

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
- 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 important events 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 a few answers! There are many things that make a group great, the list could be long! Yet, we picked a few to help you be able to focus on a few things each half. After all, you cannot do everything!

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.
- This goes for group hangs as well as 1-on-1 hangs (leader-to-student and student-to-student)

Win #3

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

GETTING THERE

COMMUNICATION & GOALS

COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR GROUP

A few reminders: 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 College Group Game Plan

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