

COVENANT CONVERSATION - PURPOSE

“All Christian small groups should develop a clear sense of purpose. The group members should all understand this purpose and promise to work towards achieving it.”

--- Roberta. Hestenes “Using the Bible in Groups”

WHY?

Developing a clear purpose is crucial so that everyone knows what the group is about and what is expected of those who participate. Many of the difficulties that groups commonly experience can be avoided if there is a shared understanding of direction and commitment.

DEFINITION OF A SMALL GROUP

A Christian small group is a gathering of 6-12 people who meet regularly with a common purpose to explore together some aspect of Christian faith and discipleship.

Within that general definition there are many aspects of a small group that the members can choose and commit to, increasing their desire to participate and sense of belonging.

Some questions to ask to clarify a group's purpose and goals might be:

1. What do you personally want to get out of a small group?
2. What do we want to do in our group meeting times?
3. What don't we want to do in this group?
4. What goals do we want to adopt as a small group?
5. What will make this group worth the time involved?
6. What do we want to have happen in and through us as a result of our involvement in this group?