

Role Description

The primary focus of a Gospel Community (GC) Leader is discipling a core group of believers (between 8-16 people) into maturity in Christ and leading them into the mission of making disciples of Jesus who make disciples of Jesus. Ideally, the desire is to be reproducing a new GC (complete with qualified leader(s) and identified mission) every 2-3 years.

Qualifications

- Must meet the qualifications of a deacon (1 Timothy 3)
- A desire to see and serve the advance of Jesus' kingdom/church/gospel
- Mature and growing disciple of Jesus, and well grounded in the Scriptures
- Committed to the purpose and doctrine, and reflects the values of Grace Fellowship
- Committed Partner of Grace Fellowship
- Demonstrates a commitment to the large gathering by meeting with the church regularly on Sundays a minimum of 46 weeks out of the year (with exceptions made for emergencies) and takes responsibility to alert leaders of any absences beforehand
- Demonstrates commitment to the small gathering by actively participating in Gospel Community through attendance, attention, preparedness, and encouraging others in the Gospel Community towards gospel-growth and holiness
- Willing to be judged with greater strictness as a leader in the church (James 3:1)
- Genuine love for people with demonstrated relational skills
- Humble demeanor and teachable spirit; consistent and reliable
- Good verbal skills with the ability to communicate clearly with warmth and graciousness
- Solid reputation inside and outside the church
- Willing to covenant together in unity with the other leaders and sign the leadership covenant

General Responsibilities

Care for and lead your community group toward growth as disciples of Jesus. Although you are not required to be the agent of the following for every member of your group, you should take responsibility that it is occurring.

- Lead GC in understanding and living out gospel identities of family, missionary, servant, disciple/learner
- Call on others in your group to shepherd one another and provide an atmosphere that is challenging and full of grace
- Facilitate fellowship times with scripture (sermon based and Gospel-centered), prayer, confession and repentance

- Partnership: Encourage people to become committed partners in the church and address lapsed expectations of members such as Gospel-Community involvement, service and giving
- Provide clear expectations for everyone in your group
- Grow your group through missional effort and seek to replicate to advance gospel opportunities in your neighborhood
- Develop future leaders through apprenticing members of your group
- Organize and plan so that your group functions well

Expectations

Personal Discipleship

- Personal growth in the gospel, applying the gospel to all of life
- Daily time in God's Word including prayer and reflection on the gospel in your own life
- Participation in ongoing training, seminars, and Gospel Community Leaders meetings

Leading Others in Discipleship

- Seek to identify an apprentice leader(s) and prepare them to lead their own GC
- You have several relationships with not-yet-believers that you are intentionally discipling to Christ
- Helping to facilitate everyone in your GC having at least one person they are intentionally discipling to Christ
- Facilitate regular, weekly contact among the people in your GC so that you live increasingly like a family on mission
- Pray for each individual in your GC
- Have regular gospel-centered contact with each individual or family in your GC (especially important for those who miss any gatherings)

Servant Leadership and being an example to others

- Meet at the large gathering location on Sundays (on time) for the prayer meeting (minimum of 46 weeks in the year). Absences are to be pre-arranged with the exception of emergencies
- Come early and stay to the end of each larger church event – serving and purposefully making gospel connections
- Maintain confidentiality except where permission is expressly granted or laws have been broken
- Give generously and regularly to the gospel ministry of Grace Fellowship
- Support one another in prayer

Personal Evaluation

- **Prayerfully read through 1 Timothy 3.**
 - How am I doing at growing in these areas?
- **Is my love for the Word growing?**
 - Do I increasingly desire to spend time with God in the Word and do I find myself drawing wisdom and strength from the Word daily?
- **Are you in control of your use of the following?**
 - Alcohol
 - Caffeine
 - TV, Movies, Netflix, YouTube
 - Web Surfing
 - Video Games
- **Am I growing in the awareness of my own sinfulness and need for grace?**
- **Am I growing in my ability to clearly articulate the gospel in any setting?**
- **Am I protecting the “eye gate”?**
 - Particularly in not participating in the viewing of pornography.
- **Do I feel joy, excitement, confidence, awe, and gratitude when I talk/think about Jesus?**
- **Do I live with confidence that: God is great – so I don’t have to be in control?**
 - Indicators that I may not be believing this:
 - I am over-bearing
 - I am inflexible or risk averse
 - I am impatient with people
 - I avoid responsibility
- **Do I live with a confidence that: God is glorious – so I do not have to fear others**
 - Indicators that I may not be believing this:
 - I avoid confrontation
 - I often crave approval
 - I behave differently around certain people
 - I pretend or hide my true self
- **Do I live with a confidence that: God is good – so I do not have to look elsewhere**
 - Indicators that I may not be believing this:
 - I sometimes feel ministry is a burden

- I often complain
- I make people feel a burden of duty
- I don't stick at things or complete projects or tasks
- **Do I live with a confidence that: God is gracious – so I do not have to prove myself**
 - Indicators that I may not be believing this:
 - I take criticism and failure badly
 - I find it hard to relax
 - I am proud or envy the success of others
 - I make people feel guilty
- **If married**
 - Have you been having regular time set aside with your wife?
 - How are you doing at leading your wife (and kids) spiritually?
 - Are you closer and more intimate with your wife now than you were 6 months ago?