

Father's House

Fellowship Group Guidelines

April 3, 2007

Fellowship Groups, Bible Study Groups, and Other Ministries of Father's House

- Father's House encourages its members to organize and lead and/or host fellowship groups, bible studies, and ministries in its name under the following requirements:
 - The group/ministry is approved & authorized by the pastors;
 - The group/ministry is submitted to the pastoral leadership, guidance and correction;
 - The group/ministry leaders are members of Father's House;
 - The group/ministry leaders either have or will complete FH Leadership Training Classes and FH Leadership Seminars appropriate for their group/ministry as they become available;
 - The group/ministry leaders attend monthly leadership meetings (when offered) with the pastors, and submit **concise** monthly reports containing at least the following information:
 - Brief summary of the material used and the citation of the reference material with the relevant pages (unless the Sunday sermon notes were used – if so simply state the title of the message);
 - List of group members (does not have to be a weekly list);
 - Meeting Dates and Time(s);
 - Goals and Objectives;
 - Reflections, Comments and Concerns;
 - Praise Reports; and
 - Any other relevant information.
 - The group/ministry leaders should not be limited to their using of the Sunday sermon notes to lead or teach in their group/ministry, but if any other materials or resources are used in the group/ministry, then the materials or resources shall be submitted to the pastors in advance (whenever possible) and receive an approval prior to their use in the group/ministry.
 - The group/ministry leaders may invite non-FH ministers/pastors as guest speakers on the single-event basis with the following guidelines:
 - The guest speaker's background and information are forwarded to the pastors in advance (whenever possible), so the pastors would have ample time to discern, make recommendations, attend, invite others, or make it into a church-wide function.
 - The group/ministry leader is to forward a **concise** reflection of the guest speaker's ministry at the fellowship group/bible study/ministry after the event.
 - Regularly invited guest speaker needs prior authorization from the pastors.
 - There shall be no multi-level marketing promotions or other business promotions/proposals among the members, in or out of the group/ministry setting;
 - The group/ministry is announced in Father's House bulletins; and
 - The group/ministry is open to all Father's House members, unless the group/ministry serves a specific homogeneous group or the group/ministry meetings are held in workplaces.
- All other ministries, bible studies, groups or activities are independent ministries, and are not part of Father's House or under its covering.

Suggested Fellowship Group Format

- A fellowship group's main focus shall be "fellowship"; that is, building a community.
 - Fellowship groups are not necessarily to imitate Sunday Celebrations or Sunday Schools.
 - Fellowship groups are for inviting, connecting, caring, nurturing, and saving.
- A practical sample format may be:
 - A place of invitation --- Invite Friends & Neighbors with "come & see"
 - A place of welcome – 10 minutes
 - A place of worship – 20 minutes
 - A place of teaching – 15 minutes
 - A place of fellowship – 30 minutes
 - A place of salvation --- Do this whenever there is an opportunity
 - A place of power (ministry/prayer) – 15 minutes
- The above format is a suggested format, and each fellowship group (and most likely ministry or bible study groups) may have its own unique format as the Holy Spirit leads.