

# Intentional Discipleship Relationships

These relationships allow us to share questions, apply our faith to daily life, and support one another through accountability, joy, disappointments, and victories.

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## What Are the Keys to an Intentional Disciple-Making Relationship?

### Meet Regularly

Deep, meaningful relationships don't just happen; they flourish through consistent time and effort together. We encourage groups to meet regularly—some weekly, some monthly, and most twice a month. We recommend maintaining this rhythm for at least one year, after which you can evaluate the next steps together. Beyond regular meetings, consider additional ways to share life together:

- **Communication:** Keep in touch through emails, texts, and phone calls.
- **Meals:** Enjoy family dinners, grab coffee, or share lunch together.
- **Fun Activities:** Go to movies, take bike rides, host game nights, or gather around a campfire.

### Help Each Other Grow

This is more than just friendship; the goal is to help each other move forward in loving Jesus, one another, and the world.

- **Pray for Each Other:** Lift one another up in prayer.
- **Celebrate Together:** Rejoice in each other's victories.
- **Share Struggles:** Be honest about challenges.
- **Challenge Each Other:** Encourage one another to grow spiritually.
- **Listen for God:** Groups provide a space to discuss, evaluate, and act on what God is speaking to each of us individually.
- **Focus on Application:** While we work through various topics at CCA, each series will include Sunday teachings and accompanying resources like books, videos, or studies. These tools support our growth in loving Jesus, each other, and the world. It's essential to remember that the primary goal isn't just study; it's about applying these truths to our lives. Intentional Disciple-Making Relationships provide the best environment to discuss, discover next steps, and hold one another accountable.

### Share Openly

These relationships thrive on openness and vulnerability. They offer a safe space to share feelings, opinions, questions, doubts, successes, and failures. These are the people who know the real you. Building this level of trust requires both giving and earning over time, grounded in confidentiality and respect.

### Care and Support Each Other

These relationships are built on mutual care. They are the people we pray for, turn to for help, and support in meeting practical needs.

## Tips and Values of Intentional Discipleship Relationships:

- **Buy-In:** Community is about mutual commitment. Everyone should prioritize meeting, growing, and sharing together. Showing up is half the battle; growth occurs when everyone is dedicated to being present as often as possible.
  - **Scheduling:** Life can be hectic, and if we wait for the perfect time to build relationships, we might be waiting a long time. Intentional Disciple-Making Relationships thrive on a scheduled and consistent meeting time. Love must be reflected both in our hearts and on our calendars.
  - **Everyone Shares:** Encourage shared responsibility in organizing, hosting, and facilitating group activities. Everyone should contribute their insights and feelings.
  - **Keep It Small:** Be realistic about how many people you can genuinely commit to this level of relationship. A group of around eight is often ideal, with smaller groups often being more effective.
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## Make Intentional Disciple-Making Relationships a Part of Your Real Life

We all have limited time and energy, so consider how these vital relationships fit into your life.

- **Do you need to opt out of some activities to create time?**
- **Where can a group meeting naturally fit into your routine?**
  - During lunch breaks?
  - After Sunday services?
  - While running or walking?
  - During kids' practices?
  - While walking dogs?
- **What location works best for your group?**
  - In your neighborhood?
  - Near your workplace?

Be creative and strategic about how these relationships can thrive within your schedule and daily rhythms. Together, we can build a community centered around Jesus and each other, transforming our lives and the world around us.

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What is my next step towards an **Intentional Discipleship Relationship**? \_\_\_\_\_

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