

## CI Groups rules and regulations

In the church's desire for our people to gain spiritual and theological maturity, we often forget about the importance of life beyond the Bible study. So often, we get caught up in programs and training that we lose touch with the creative part of our souls. Without this exploratory and fun side of our lives, it can lead a church to become mechanical and out of touch with whom God has made us to be. People need to be people, to explore life and the beauty of living.

C.I. Groups (Common Interest) give us the opportunity to be balanced as people and as a church. As we enjoy our hobbies, we begin to connect with other people, become more of a family and grow. In our lives, it is similar hobbies and interests that bring people together and I can't think of a better opportunity to build bridges and create friendships at CP than our new C.I. Groups.

C.I. Groups fall under the bigger picture of community that we refer to as our Links. So under Links, we will now have Life Groups, Community groups and C.I. Groups.

### **To start a C.I. Group you must:**

- a. Be a member of CP (this means you have gone through the membership process).
- b. Meet with one of the pastors and be approved.
- c. Be willing to follow all the rules listed below.
- d. We are looking for quality groups not just quantity. Groups can start only if we get a minimum of 5 people interested when we launch a new C.I. group.

### **Rules of CP C.I. Groups:**

- C.I. Groups must not be "spiritual" in nature, which includes teaching the Bible or discipleship. This may sound strange at first but the spiritual growth of the church in smaller groups takes place in our life groups and

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community groups and is not the purpose of a C.I Group. Certainly there can be, and sometimes needs to be, a spiritual element (such as a book club reading a Christian book or an artist group using worship music). If your idea is more spiritual in nature then please contact one of our pastors to see if it could instead become a new community group.

- A C.I. Group leader must always make sure that everyone always feels included.
- A C.I. Group leader must get in touch with someone who is interested in your C.I. Group within 2 weeks.
- Communication is key! If you are canceling a meeting or making changes, you must have a system in place to properly inform your C.I. group.
- You cannot exclude anyone within CP from your C.I. Group. If someone is a problem, you must contact the church office and speak to one of our pastors to know how to proceed.
- As a C.I. Group leader, you are representing CenterPoint Church. As such you must not contradict the teaching, values or the vision of CP church during your C.I. group.
- There will hopefully be people in your C.I. Group who are not familiar with Jesus. As a missional church, this is a great opportunity to live missionally with others. At the same time, you need to keep all conversations edifying, setting the standard for language and having humility and gentleness as you lead.
- If someone is saying things that are inappropriate, do not embarrass them or call them out in front of others. Rather, take the time to pull them aside and gently explain to them that we avoid certain topics or language.

### **C.I. Group Form:**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal goals: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of C.I. Group (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Type of C.I. Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of C.I. Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Days, duration and time of meetings: \_\_\_\_\_

Equipment needed to participate: \_\_\_\_\_

Experience level (If applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Location of meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read all of the requirements and rules associated with starting a CI Group and are willing to respect and follow them.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_