

# STAGES OF GROUP LIFE

The stages are only meant to be a guide through a group's maturation. They are not presented as absolutes.

## STAGE 1:

### FORMATION – *Infancy Stage*

# of Mtgs. in stage: 4-6

#### Member's Questions

- Who is in the group?
- Do I like my group?
- Will the group be worth it?

#### Member's Role

- Learn and share personal stories
- Get to know other members
- Learn and share group expectations

#### Leader's Role

- Promote sharing
- Communicate vision
- Define covenant

## STAGE 2:

### EXPLORATION – *Childhood Stage*

# of Mtgs. in stage: 6-8

#### Member's Questions

- How is my group doing?
- Do I fit here?

#### Member's Role

- Share information about self
- Accept others as they are

#### Leader's Role

- Generate trust
- Promote sharing

## STAGE 3:

### TRANSITION – *Adolescence Stage*

# of Mtgs. in stage: 4-8

#### Member's Questions

- Am I opening up?
- Am I growing?

#### Member's Role

- Give feedback
- Express any frustrations to Leader

#### Leader's Role

- Clarify expectations/covenant
- Stay flexible
- Be patient

## STAGE 4:

### ACTION – *Young Adult Stage*

# of Mtgs. in stage: 10-20

#### Member's Questions

- Will I take risks with other members?
- What can I do to promote community?

#### Member's Role

- Express feelings
- Take ownership
- Use gifts

#### Leader's Role

- Celebrate progress
- Provide ideas (trip/service project)
- Identify Apprentice(s) in first 6 mo.

## STAGE 5:

### MULTIPLICATION – *Adult Stage*

# of Mtgs. in stage: 4-8

#### Member's Questions

- Why should my group multiply?
- Will the group survive the transition?

#### Member's Role

- Express and discuss concerns
- Give blessing

#### Leader's Role

- Cast vision
- Train Apprentice and inform group
- Pray

## STAGE 6:

### CONCLUSION – *Legacy Stage*

# of Mtgs. in stage: 2-4

#### Member's Questions

- Was the group worth my time?
- Will I join another group?

#### Member's Role

- Express gratitude
- Affirm relationships

#### Leader's Role

- Celebrate personal growth
- Bring closure
- Successfully transition

Taken from: Northpoint Community Church, [www.insidegrouplife.org](http://www.insidegrouplife.org).

Adapted from: Intervarsity, Small Group Leaders Handbook.