

# GRACE BIBLE CHURCH

## — *Lorton* —

### Home Group Values

#### **Attendance**

Give priority to the group meetings (communicate to leader if I am absent or late). At GBC, the "one another" commands are primarily lived out in community through the Home Groups. Through attendance, we receive God's grace through the community of His people. (Acts 2:42-47; Heb. 10:23-25)

#### **Preparedness**

Be ready to engage. Whether it's sermon review or a book study, come prepared to participate in that. (Matt. 5:33-37; James 5:12)

#### **Self-Awareness**

We try to be self-aware of how our words, actions, and non-verbal communication can personally affect the environment. Additionally, we try not to personally dominate the conversation, but give space for others to speak. This also includes trying to stay on the topic of the primary discussion. (Phil. 2:3-5; James 3:1-12)

#### **Confidentiality**

People should be comfortable being honest about their burdens and sins, knowing that they will not be sinfully judged nor be subjected to gossip, but instead receive love, grace, and truth from God's word (no quick answers, snap judgments, or simple fixes). What is said in the group stays in the group, unless it is a leader needing wisdom from a pastor/elder. (Prov. 11:13; Matt. 7:1-5; Eph. 4:15, 29-30; James 4:11-12)

#### **Humility**

We all need help, so allow group members to speak biblical grace and truth into our lives to help us pursue Christlikeness. Conversely, we who are speaking biblical grace and truth should be quick to ask questions first, before speaking, so we can best know what's going on. (Prov. 11:14, 12:15, 18:17; Heb. 10:24-25; James 1:19)

#### **No Fixing**

We are not to "fix" or "rescue" each other, but to point to the One who can. We are called to give biblical encouragement, speak truth, pray for, and point one another to Jesus. (Gal. 2:20; 1 Thess. 5:9-11; Titus 2:11-14; Heb. 12:2)

#### **Conflict Resolution**

Commitment to pursuing reconciliation and to avoid division of any kind, by following the principles of Matthew 18:15-17 and Galatians 6:1-5.

#### **Pray**

To knit our hearts to our group members and to care for them, we should regularly pray for them. (Phil. 1:3-11)

#### **Limit Our Freedom**

To limit our freedom by not serving or consuming alcohol during Home Group meetings, while using discretion at other Home Group events/socials to limit our freedom to avoid causing a weaker brother or sister to stumble. (1 Cor. 8:1-13; Rom. 14:19-21)