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| page1image41825072dGroup Leader Onboarding Track Session Notes**Session 2: What Is a Discipleship Group?****Speaker:** Pastor Kevin Sample**Scriptures:** Acts 2:42, John 10:14, 1 Thessalonians 2:8, Ephesians 4:15, Matthew 28:19 **Summary** This session defines what a discipleship group (D-group) is and clarifies what it is not. A healthy D-group is not simply a care group, social gathering, or Bible study—it is a focused environment where believers are known, loved, and challenged to become more like Jesus. Drawing from Jesus’ own ministry and the early church model in Acts, the session emphasizes intentional relationships, spiritual growth, and multiplication through disciple-making. The success of a D-group is measured by its members becoming disciple-makers themselves. **I. What a Discipleship Group Is NOT** Not a needs-focused pastoral care group.Not a Bible study centered on one leader’s teaching.Not just social fellowship or family gathering.Not an accountability checklist or spiritual gift tryout group.Not a mini church service with worship and sermons.While a D-group may contain elements of these, its core purpose is to make disciples. **II. What a Discipleship Group IS** A discipleship group is where I am: KnownLovedChallengedTo become more like Jesus **III. Known – Building Relationship** John 10:14 – Jesus knows His sheep, and they know Him. Leaders should lead with vulnerability and honest storytelling.Deep connection comes through learning each other’s stories and backgrounds. Practice active listening and follow-up questions. **IV. Loved – Expressing Genuine Care** 1 Thessalonians 2:8 – Share not just the gospel, but your life.Love means taking action during the week, not just during group meetings. Show support, pray, follow up, and be present in one another’s lives. Cultivate a safe, caring environment. **V. Challenged – Encouraging Spiritual Growth** Ephesians 4:15 – Speak the truth in love for growth and maturity.Challenge members to grow in spiritual disciplines like prayer and Bible reading. Encourage honesty about struggles and accountability for change.Stir one another to step beyond comfort zones. **VI. The Goal – To Become More Like Jesus** Matthew 28:19 – The mission is to make disciples who make disciples. A healthy D-group sees members begin to lead and influence others. Revisit this framework regularly to assess group health. **Application Questions** 1. How are you fostering a group culture where people feel truly known and safe to be transparent? 2. What intentional actions are you taking between meetings to show love and care for your group? 3. In what ways are you helping your group members grow spiritually and take next steps?4. How are you modeling and encouraging others to become more like Jesus?  |
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