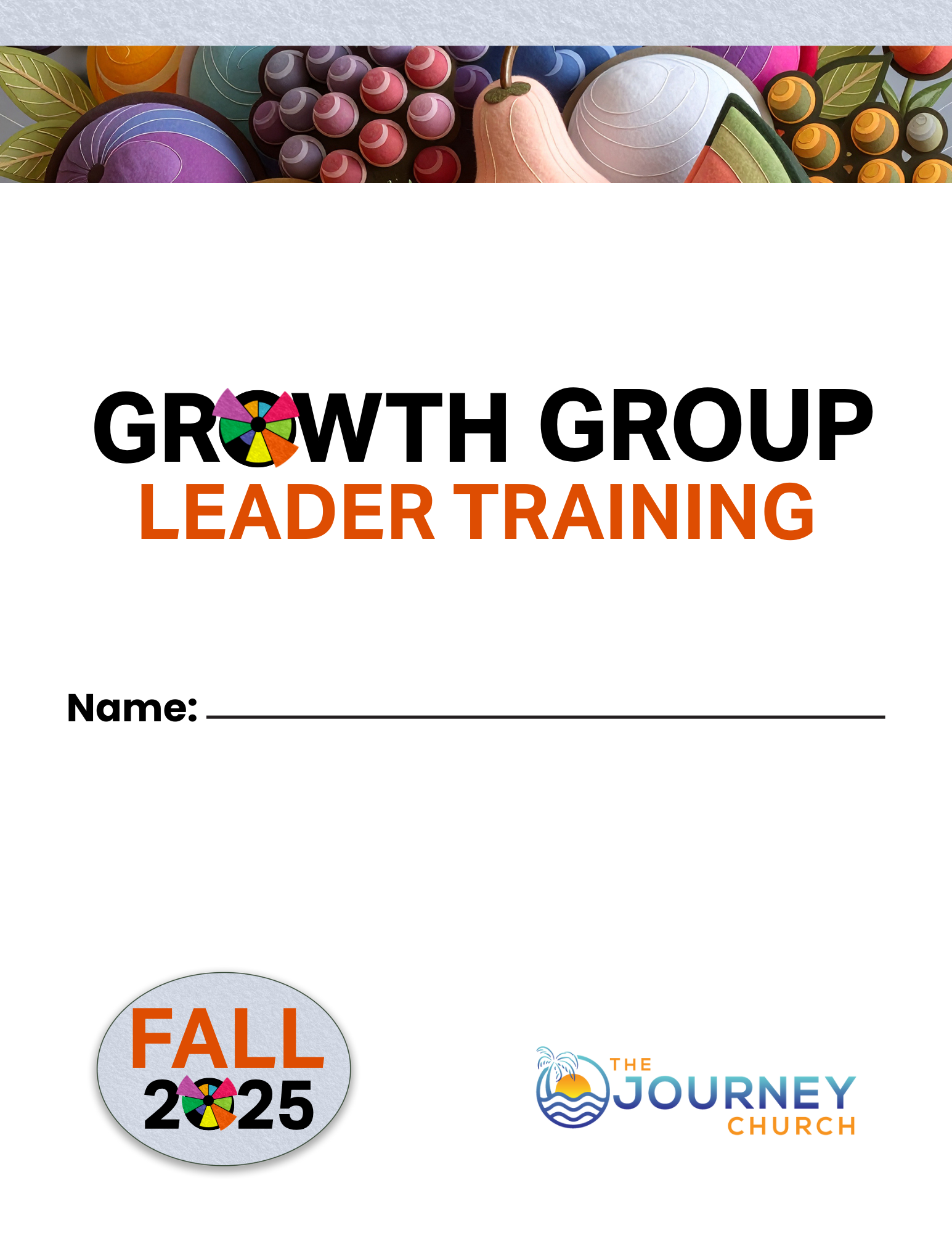
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**Fall 2025 Growth Group Dates**

**Wednesday, September 24 –** The Difference Maker Seminar

**Sunday, September 28 –** Biblical Legacy Planning Luncheon

**Sunday, October 5 –** Kickoff of *Character Counts: Living the Fruit of the Spirit*

**Week of Monday, October 6 –** Fall 2025 Growth Groups Begin!

**Sunday, October 12 –** Newcomers Reception

**Sunday, October 19 –** Membership Class

**Sunday, October 26 –** Journey Kids Fall Fest during the services + Class 401

**Wednesday, November 5 –** Baptism & Worship Night

**Sunday, November 9 –** Class 201

**Wednesday, December 3 –** Christmas Parade & Tree Lighting Outreach

**Sunday, December 7 –** Membership Class 101

**Sunday, December 7 –** FREE Professional Christmas Portrait Sunday **Sunday, December 7 –** Members and Leaders Christmas Party

**Sunday, December 14 –** Christmas Baptism

**Week of Monday, December 15 –** Final Week of Fall 2025 Growth Groups

**Wednesday, December 24 –** Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**Journey Mission Statement**

The Journey exists to give the people of South Florida the best opportunity   
to become fully developing followers of Jesus.

*“They* ***worshiped together*** *at the Temple each day,* ***met in homes***

*for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity*

*– all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people.*

*And each day the Lord added to their group those who were being saved.”*

– Acts 2:46-47

**How Does My Growth Group “WIN”?**

* My Growth Group “WINS” when together we \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to our lives AND \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**The Journey’s Fall 2025 Growth Groups Responsibilities**

**What does my Growth Group Do?**

* Meets together once a week.
* Serves together once a month.
* Reaches out together once a semester.

**WHAT DOES A GROWTH GROUP LEADER DO?**

* Pray for group members once a day.
* Lead the group once a week.
* Meet with Team Leader in a Growth Group Huddle once a semester.
* Form new groups from their current group at the end of the semester by identifying new leaders.

**WHAT DOES A GROWTH GROUP COORDINATOR DO?**

* Prepares to become a Growth Group Leader by serving as an apprentice who supports and assists the Group Leader.
* Sends out group reminders & prayer requests.
* Facilitates group discussion multiple times during the semester.
* Prays for the group.

**Each week the coordinator sends 2 emails to the group:**

1. Record prayer requests and email them to everyone in the group the day after the group meets.
2. Send an attendance reminder email to everyone in the group each week a day or two before the group is scheduled to meet (and before group events).

**HOW TO LEAD MY CHARACTER COUNTS**

**GROWTH GROUP**

*“The Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace,*

*patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,**gentleness, and self-control.*

*There is no law against these things!”* - Galatians 5:22-23

1. **R \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ About the Fruit of the Spirit.**

* The Fruit of the Spirit grow by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ power not by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ power.
* I have a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in developing the Fruit of the Spirit in me.
* I have a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* It \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to grow the Fruit of the Spirit.
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is first for a reason.

*“It is not by force nor by strength, but by my Spirit,*

*says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies.”* - Zechariah 4:6

1. **R \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Every Monday.**

(Jesus) *“Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let’s celebrate together!”* - Matthew 25:21

1. **R \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in My Growth Group.**

*“Never stop praying.”* - 1 Thessalonians 5:17

1. **R \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the Fruit of the Spirit in My Own Life.**

*“And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.”*

- Philippians 1:6

**Four F’s of Leading a Growth Group**

1. F \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Who can I invite to be a part of my Growth Group?

* People from previous Growth Groups.

* People I know from church.
* Friends or family who do not attend another church.

How do I tell people about my Growth Group?

* Send a text to friends inviting them to sign up.
* Email an interest list with details about your group and invite them to sign up.
* Post details about my Growth Group weekly on social media. Be creative!
* Serve on the Welcome Team.
* Serve at the Growth Group Table and hold a poster at the service.

KEY ACTIONS:

* Invite as many people as I can to join my Growth Group THIS week.
* Find a Growth Group Coordinator or Co-leader for my group.
* Sign up for my group online. Change the details if receiving little interest.

\*Challenge: List 3 people I can invite to join my Growth Group:

1. 2. 3.

**2. F** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How do people sign up for my Growth group?

* Sunday & Online Signups: You receive an immediate email.
* Weekly Roster: Each Tuesday you will receive an updated Growth Group roster.

Three types of communication…

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Communication**

* As soon as someone signs up, email them the details for your Growth Group. *(Sample email included on page 13)*
* Within a few days of the initial sign-up, text and/or call them to introduce yourself.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Communication**

* Call and text your Group Members the week of your first meeting.
* Two email reminders before the first meeting:
  + One 1 Week before
  + One 1 Day before

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Communication**

* Two weekly emails:
  + Meeting reminder (1 or 2 days before meeting)
  + Prayer requests (day after meeting)

**\*Challenge:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.**

**3. F** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Preparing for my first Growth Group:

* Pray for your group and the individuals who sign up
* When someone signs-up, immediately add them to your Growth Group list (keep an excel file with everyone’s contact information).
* Keep the names of your Growth Group Members in a place where you will see them every day (index card in your Bible, background of your phone, desktop of your computer, on your refrigerator) as a reminder to pray. Set a reminder every morning to pray for 3-4 Growth Group members.
* Go over itinerary for your Growth Group
* Follow the First Group Meeting Itinerary *(page 15)*.
* Review the syllabus for your Growth Group *(sample on page 14)*.
* Each Monday we will send you an icebreaker, the itinerary for that week, and important announcements to share with your Growth Group.
* Your weekly itinerary will include a Leader’s Guide to help you facilitate your group discussion each week, as well as other helpful tools.
* Lead your group through the Growth Group Covenant & Syllabus at your first meeting.

* Walk through the Syllabus with your Group during the first group meeting

*(page 14)*.

* Read through the Growth Group Covenant and have members of your Growth Group sign (physical copy or online) *(page 16)*.

**\*Challenge:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.**

**4. F** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How can I keep everyone engaged in my Growth Group discussion?

* Make sure everyone can comfortably see and hear one another.

Online Group Leaders:

* + Turn your camera on and use a headphone mic (if possible) to minimize background noise and feedback.
  + Encourage everyone to turn on their camera.

In-Person Groups:

* + Sit where you can see everyone and they can see you.
  + Speak up and speak clearly, while inviting others to do the same.
  + Make sure temperature and noise levels are comfortable.
* Begin and end on time every time.
* Include an icebreaker each week to help group members relax and warm up.
* Ask group members what stood out to them. Utilize questions provided by your Leader’s Guide. Invite group members to read a passage of scripture aloud.

A diagram of a member

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**Ping Pong Ball…. …Keep it in Play!**

A diagram of a member

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

* Don’t let one person ruin it for everyone else.
* Provide the “2 C’s” –
  + Care to Growth Group members
  + Communication to Staff
* End every group by praying for prayer requests and emailing them out.
* Serve at a Sunday service once a month this semester *(see page 17 for schedule)*.
* Lead your group to serve at the Fall Outreach *(see page 18 for schedule)*.

**\*Challenge:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.**

Four F’s Checklist:

FILL-UP CHECKLIST:

\_\_ Secure a Coordinator for your Growth Group.

\_\_ Serve at the Growth Group Table and ask people on Sunday to join my group.

\_\_ Invite friends, neighbors, and co-workers to join my group.

FOLLOW-UP CHECKLIST:

\_\_ Email every person who signs up for my group immediately with all the important information: day/time/location, start date, syllabus, contact info, etc.

\_\_ Call/text everyone who signs up for my group at least once before Oct 6.

\_\_ Send an email reminder two days before my group begins.

\_\_ Follow up personally with those who don’t show up for Growth Group at least 3 weeks into the group (don’t remove their name from the list until they request it).

FOCUS CHECKLIST:

\_\_ Pray daily for those who have signed up for my group.

\_\_ Secure a place for my group to meet.

\_\_ Have the Syllabus and GG Covenant ready at the 1st group meeting.

FACILITATE CHECKLIST:

\_\_ Send 2 weekly emails to my Growth Group: Group Reminder Email *(one or two days before group meeting)* and Prayer Requests *(day after group meets)*.

\_\_ Write down my group’s Sunday serving dates and communicate those dates to my group. Be faithful in leading my group to serve.

\_\_ Continually identify potential leaders from my group and give them the opportunity to serve/lead within my group.

**Sample Follow-up Email**

**Subject:** Welcome to our Fall Growth Group!

**To:** Everyone who signs up for your group

Hi <<First Name>>,

My name is <<Leader Name>> and I’m so excited that you’re going to be part of our Fall Growth Group! I wanted to shoot you a quick email to introduce myself and give you some details about our group.

Our group will meet on **Monday evenings** this fall and will be studying *Bearing Spiritual Fruit in the Power of the Spirit*. You can download your free copy at [www.BocaJourney.com/Congrats](http://www.BocaJourney.com/Congrats).

We meet for the first time on **Monday, October 6** from 7:00-8:30pm at [INSERT LOCATION]**.**Our final time together will be **Monday, December 15**.  So – it's just 11 weeks together – but we are going to get so much out of it!

Here are the details…

**WHAT:**Fall Growth Group – [*Bearing Spiritual Fruit in the Power of the Spirit*](https://www.bocajourney.com/congrats)

**WHEN:**Monday evenings from 7:00-8:00pm beginning on Monday, October 6

**WHERE:**Midtown – Chick-fil-A on 37th St & 6th Ave

If you know of others who would be interested in joining our group – feel free to invite them. Here is the link where they can find out more and sign up: [www.BocaJourney.com/Groups](http://www.BocaJourney.com/Groups)

I’m really looking forward to our Growth Group and I hope you are as well! Reply to this email and let me know if you’ll be at our first meeting.

See you on Sunday and I am praying for you!

<<Leader Name>>

**Fall 2025 Character Counts Growth Group Syllabus**

Welcome to your Fall 2025 Growth Group. Your group will meet weekly beginning the week of October 6 and will conclude the week of December 15.

Each week we will discuss a chapter from ***Bearing Spiritual Fruit in the Power of the Spirit*** and learn from God’s Word how to cultivate and live out the Fruit of the Spirit. Come to the group each week prepared to participate in the discussion. Below is a week-by-week syllabus for your group:

**Week #1: Week of Oct 6** – Welcome, Overview, Group Covenants, & Chapter 1:

*By the Way of Introduction*

**Week #2: Week of Oct 13** – Chapter 2: *Pass It On*

**Week #3: Week of Oct 20** – Chapter 3: *If You Want Joy*

**Week #4: Week of Oct 27** – Chapter 4: *Peace Like a River* & Chapter 5: *Fast-Track Patience*

**Week #5: Week of Nov 3** –Chapter 5: *Fast-Track Patience*

**Week #6: Week of Nov 10** – Chapter 6: *Level 2 Kindness*

**Week #7: Week of Nov 17** – Chapter 7: *Goodness—Love in Action!*

**Week #8: Week of Nov 24** –NO GROUP THIS WEEK: *Happy Thanksgiving!*

**Week #9: Week of Dec 1** – Chapter 8: *24/7 Christians* & Chapter 9: *Gentle as You Go*

* **Growth Group Outreach Week –** *All Growth Groups will also participate in our Christmas Outreach on Wed, Dec 3.*

**Week #10: Week of Dec 8** – Chapter 10: *Self-Control—Running to Win*

**Week #11: Week of Dec 15** –Growth Group Christmas Party!

**SUNDAY SERVING DATES:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Fall 2025 Growth Groups**

**Itinerary for your 1st Growth Group Meeting**

1. **First 5 Minutes:** Allow people to arrive and talk. Leaders – be sure to be ready to receive people in-person or online 10 min before the group begins. Arrive early.
2. **Introductions:** Have everyone introduce themselves and share what they do, where they are from, and why they decided to join the group. (10 min)
3. **Introduce the group study:** Walk through **GG Syllabus**. Answer any questions. Remind your group that this study will go along with The Journey’s fall teaching series, *Character Counts: Living the Fruit of the Spirit***.** End this section by reading Galatians 5:22-23 aloud together. (5 minutes)
4. **Talk through chapter one of *Bearing Spiritual Fruit*:** Keep in mind that not everyone will have read, so focus on the “Thinking It Through” questions on page nine.  
   1. Reflect on some specific qualities you would love for God to develop in you. List a few characteristics or strengths below… possibly some of the Fruit of the Spirit.
   2. Has God allowed some things to be taken from you? Maybe the loss of a loved one? Perhaps a financial setback such as a loss of a job? Possibly part of your health or other misfortune? What comes to your mind?
   3. In retrospect, in what ways do you see that God brought something good out of the loss or hurt? Was there some result you did not expect? How do you see no that the Lord produced the fruit of patience in you? For example, gave you join in the midst of suffering, or taught you to love in some way?
   4. What’s next? What are your next steps in following God through this study?
5. **Growth Group Covenant**: Read through the Covenant carefully with the group. Explain the points as you read each one. Answer any questions. If anyone tries to be difficult and disagreeable, offer to talk with them individually at the end of the meeting. (10 min)
6. **Explain and ask for volunteers for the different roles within the group:**

Snack Coordinator, Fun Event Coordinator, Prayer Coordinator, etc. (5 min)

1. **Share prayer requests and pray together.** (10 min)
2. **Talk** – Give people a few minutes to talk before ending the group.

**The Journey’s Fall 2025 Growth Group Covenant**

Welcome to your **Fall Growth Group** at The Journey. Congratulations on your desire to grow deeper in your relationship with God through this weekly study and the relationships that will begin in this Growth Group.

As a member of this group, you will be asked to enter into a covenant with the other members to make this Growth Group a priority. To be a part of the group, you are asked to make the following commitments:

1. I will make this group a priority by attending each week, keeping up with my assignments, and participating in group discussion.
2. I will regularly attend The Journey services and contribute to the ministry of the church through my attendance, giving, service, and inviting of others.
3. I will strive to build authentic relationships with those in this group by showing care, providing encouragement, and praying for their needs.
4. I will intentionally share my faith with those around me by reaching out to lost and unchurched friends by praying, giving a verbal witness, and inviting them to The Journey.
5. I will serve at Church together with my group once a month.
6. I will explore honestly my next steps for spiritual growth.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Sign Your Name Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Your Name

Growth Group Members can also complete the Covenant here: BocaJourney.com/Covenant

**Fall 2025 GG Welcome Team Serving Schedule**

**Service Times:** 9:30am or 11:00am

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Leaders** | **Date 1** | **Date 2** | **Date 3** | **Date 4** |
| **Jason** | Oct 12 @ 9:30am or 11:00am | Nov 09 @ 9:30am or 11:00am | Dec 7 @ 9:30am or 11:00am | Jan 4 @ 9:30am or 11:00am |
| **Students** | Oct 12  @ 9:30am or 11:00am | Nov 09 @ 9:30am or 11:00am | Dec 7 @ 9:30am or 11:00am | Jan 4 @ 9:30am or 11:00am |
| **Del & Erv** | Oct 19  9:30am | Nov 16  9:30am | Dec 14  9:30am | Jan 11  9:30am |
| **Vitor & Thali** | Oct 19  11:00am | Nov 16  11:00am | Dec 14  11:00am | Jan 11  11:00am |
| **Kathy** | Oct 19  11:00am | Nov 16  11:00am | Dec 14  11:00am | Jan 11  11:00am |
| **College & Young Adult** | Oct 26  9:30am | Nov 23  9:30am | Dec 21  9:30am | Jan 18  9:30am |
| **Gwen & Lashawndra** | Oct 26  11:00am | Nov 23  11:00am | Dec 21  11:00am | Jan 18  11:00am |
| **Chelsea** | Nov 02  9:30am | Nov 30  9:30am | Dec 28  **No Service** | Jan 25  9:30am |
| **Carol & Cheyenne** | Nov 02  11:00am | Nov 30  11:00am | Dec 28  **No Service** | Jan 25  11:00am |
| **Natasha & Sam** | Nov 02  11:00am | Nov 30  11:00am | Dec 28  **No Service** | Jan 25  11:00am |

**Growth Group Outreach Project Assignments**

**Boca Holiday Parade Outreach – Wednesday, December 3 @ 6:30pm**

* Jason

**Delray Tree Lighting Outreach – Wednesday, December 3 @ 6:30pm**

* Nate
* Carol

**Growth Group Leader/Coordinator Covenant**

**Fall 2025**

Thank you for serving as a Growth Group Leader/Coordinator at The Journey. As a Growth Group Leader/Coordinator you will be viewed by those in your group as a leader in the church. As a result, we ask that you enter into covenant with the other Growth Group Leaders/Coordinators by making the following commitments:

1. I will embody and reflect the values and principles of The Journey and will follow the leadership of the staff team.

2. I will faithfully attend The Journey on Sundays and:

* Participate in the church by becoming a member and giving in a measurable way.
* Leading my group in serving together once a month.

3. I will make my Growth Group a priority by:

* Faithfully attending my Growth Group.
* Preparing beforehand for my group each week.
* Inviting/welcoming others to join my group.
* Identifying new leaders in my Growth Group.

4. I understand I am responsible for the care of my Growth Group. As a result, I will:

* Pray for the individuals in my group.
* Follow up with each person in my group.
* Lead my group in providing care for one another.

5. I will strive to create an environment of growth in my group by:

* Involving as many people as possible in group discussion.
* Creating a safe, comfortable, and welcoming environment.
* Beginning and ending on time.

6. I will intentionally share my faith with those around me by:

* Reaching out to lost and unchurched friends and inviting them to The Journey.
* Encouraging my Growth Group members to reach out to lost and unchurched friends and inviting them to The Journey.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Sign Your Name Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Your Name