

Small Group Basics

SHARE

EQUIP

ENCOURAGE

WORSHIP

DISCIPLESHIP

MINISTRY

FELLOWSHIP

EVANGELISM

Our Mission

The mission of Sunday School is to actively involve the people of First Baptist Owasso in fulfilling the Great Commission by sharing the gospel with the lost and equipping and encouraging Believers.

Our Method

Small group, Bible Study Sunday School is our method for reaching people with the gospel and teaching people how to live a godly life while building lasting relationships.

Our Verse

“Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you...” —Matthew 28:19—20

Never doubt that a small group of committed Believers can change the world. Do you know why?

It's the only thing that ever has.

We know that Jesus died on the cross to secure salvation for everyone who believes, yet there's more to the story. While on this earth Jesus poured His life into a *small group* of 12 men who would change the world forever.

Small groups just like this are the heart of ministry at FBCO and at the heart of these Sunday School Classes is a small team of passionate, committed and capable Believers—leading people to become fully devoted followers of Christ. We are thankful for you! — *Philippians 1:3—11*

Suggested Small Group Leadership Structure

Class Leader

Teacher | Discipleship Leader

Evangelism Leader

Worship Leader

Ministry Leader

Fellowship Leader

Suggested Small Group Time Structure

Fellowship 5 minutes

Announcements 5 minutes

Outreach in Focus 5 minutes

Worship/Prayer Time 15 minutes

Bible Study 45 minutes

CLASS LEADER DESCRIPTION

1. Recruit 5 Purpose Leaders for your class.
2. Organize and coordinate with the 5 Purpose Leaders to fulfill their ministry and accomplish your class mission.
3. Manage class time.

Suggested Class Time Structure

Fellowship	5 minutes
Announcements	5 minutes
Outreach in Focus	5 minutes
Worship/Prayer Time	15 minutes
Bible Study	45 minutes

4. With the other 5 Purpose Leaders, contact ABSENT Class Members and guests.
5. Lead the class to birth new classes.

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TEACHER | DISCIPLESHIP LEADER DESCRIPTION

1. Prepare and present the weekly Small Group Bible Study.
2. Lead and encourage class discussions about the practical application of Scripture to everyday life.
3. Encourage participants to read, memorize and meditate on the Word of God.
4. Assist the Class Leader to manage class time.

Suggested Class Time Structure

Fellowship	5 minutes
Announcements	5 minutes
Outreach in Focus	5 minutes
Worship/Prayer Time	15 minutes
Bible Study	45 minutes

5. With the other 5 Purpose Leaders, contact ABSENT Class Members and guests.
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EVANGELISM LEADER DESCRIPTION

1. Encourage the class to learn how to share the gospel and to actively share their faith.
3. Lead the class to pray for, invite, and share the gospel with lost friends and family.
4. Lead the class to actively participate in the church's outreach ministries.
5. Assist the Class Leader to manage class time.

Suggested Class Time Structure

Fellowship	5 minutes
Announcements	5 minutes
Outreach in Focus	5 minutes
Worship/Prayer Time	15 minutes
Bible Study	45 minutes

6. Communicate Prospect updates to Church Staff as needed.
7. With the other 5 Purpose Leaders, contact ABSENT Class Members and guests.
8. Lead the class to birth new classes.

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Evangelism Basics

“The opposite of love is not hate; it is indifference.” - C. S. Lewis

Evangelism 101

Evangelism is not a professional job for a few trained men, but is instead the unrelenting responsibility of every person who belongs to the company of Jesus.”

- Elton Trueblood

- Sharing the gospel is not about **ABILITY** or **TRAINING**. Sharing the gospel is about **COMPASSION** and **RELATIONSHIP**.
- Sharing the gospel is an **INTRODUCTION**.

“...and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.” - Acts 4:13

- Make the most of **EVERY OPPORTUNITY**.

“Get out on a limb, that’s where the fruit is.” - Unknown

Outreach in Focus | During Group Time

- Take time **EVERY** Sunday to encourage your group to reach out to people who are **FAR** from God.
 - **PRAY**—
 - That God would give members of your class the **BOLDNESS** to share the gospel.
 - For lost **FRIENDS, FAMILY, COWORKERS, EMPLOYEES, BOSS,** and **ACQUAINTANCES**.
 - Keep a **LIST**. Celebrate when someone on the list comes to faith in Christ.
 - **SHARE**—
 - Ask a class member to **SHARE** their testimony.
 - Ask your class if anyone has taken an opportunity this week to **SHARE** the gospel.
 - Talk about **BIRTHING** a new class.
 - Birthing a new class is not about **SEPARATING** old friends. It’s about reaching **NEW** friends with the gospel.
- **MAKE CONTACT** with guests.
 - Visit
 - Postcard
 - **Email**
 - Phone
 - TXT
 - Facebook/Twitter

WORSHIP LEADER DESCRIPTION

1. Encourage and equip your class for WORSHIP and PRAYER.
2. Actively collect, maintain and distribute class Prayer Requests and Praise Reports.
3. Lead Class Prayer Time.
4. Assist the Class Leader to manage class time.

Suggested Class Time Structure

Fellowship	5 minutes
Announcements	5 minutes
Outreach in Focus	5 minutes
Worship/Prayer Time	15 minutes
Bible Study	45 minutes

5. Communicate Prayer Request and Praise Reports to Church Staff as needed.
6. Actively participate in the church's outreach ministries.
7. With the other 5 Purpose Leaders, contact ABSENT Class Members and guests.
8. Lead the class to birth new classes.

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Worship Leader | Prayer Basics

“Continuous, thoughtful, meaningful prayer is the perpetual state of every Believer who worships God in spirit and truth.”

Questions of the Day

- When do the thoughts we think become the prayers we pray?
- How can we teach our class to pray without ceasing?

Knowing WHAT to Pray

- **Prayer REQUESTS** – that which we ask
- **Praise REPORTS** – that which has been answered
- **Gone FISHING** – prayers for those we are actively attempting to reach with the gospel and inviting to Small Group
- **Praying SCRIPTURE**
- **A BALANCED List** – is your class praying for a relatively equal number of physical needs/spiritual needs; requests/praises; Scripture
- **Force MULTIPLIER** – when to pass prayer requests/praises on to church staff.

Ways to Lead Class Prayer Time

- **ONE Person Voices Prayer**
- **OPEN Prayer** – One person opens, one person closes, anyone who wants to voice a prayer in between can! The same person can open and close the prayer time.
- **CONVERSATIONAL Prayer** – in this form of prayer NO requests or praises are taken. This time begins and ends like an OPEN PRAYER; however, individuals are encouraged to PRAY their requests or praises as a ONE LINE prayer. Other class members are encouraged to continue that prayer thought until another one line prayer/praise is voiced.
- **DESIGNATED Pray-ers** – Designate multiple people to pray, each prays for a specific ‘topic’ or ‘type’ of prayer on your list.
- **SMALL Group** – Divide the class into small groups; ask them to pray for the requests as a group. One person voices a prayer to ‘close’ all the group prayers.
 - **DISTRIBUTED Prayers** – once in small groups give each group a section of requests over which to pray.
- **Moment of SILENCE** – invite everyone to pray silently, one person voices closing prayer.

How to Receive and Distribute Prayer Requests and Praises

- **BEFORE** Class
- **AFTER** Class
- **DURING** Class
- Email | Phone | TXT | Facebook
- CAUTION

MINISTRY LEADER DESCRIPTION

1. Organize the class to minister to and care for one another.
2. Organize the class to minister to and care for people outside your group.
3. Organize the other 5 Purpose Leaders to contact ABSENT Class Members and guests.
4. Monitor the PRAYER and ATTENDANCE list for ministry opportunities.
5. Assist the Class Leader to manage class time.

Suggested Class Time Structure

Fellowship	5 minutes
Announcements	5 minutes
Outreach in Focus	5 minutes
Worship/Prayer Time	15 minutes
Bible Study	45 minutes

6. Communicate ministry needs to Church Staff as needed.
7. Actively participate in the church's outreach ministries.
8. Lead the class to birth new classes.

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Ministry Leader & Secretary Basics

“Faces and names. I want to see more than just faces and names. Lord, help me see the beautiful heart inside. Help me see more than just faces and names.” - Al Denson

Ministry 101

- The heart of **MINISTRY** is a genuine **LOVE** for people.
- The start of **MINISTRY** is getting to **KNOW** people. This is about **RELATIONSHIP**.
 - When there is no **RELATIONSHIP** people will fall through the **CRACKS**.
- The start of **MINISTRY** takes place in a **CLASSROOM**. The heart of **MINISTRY** takes place **OUTSIDE** the classroom.
- The **BE WITH** Principle | Mark 3:14
 - Knowing the 5 W's | **Who, What, Where, When & Why** | John 4
 - Asking | **How** can we help?
- **CARE** Groups—Small groups within your small group.
 - When your group reaches more than 15 it can be helpful to divide the group into smaller groups. This can help with class discussions, contacts and prayer time.
 - **MIX** it up—sometimes CARE Groups are a great way to build new relationships within your group.
 - **KEEP** it together—sometimes CARE Groups are a great way to strengthen established relationships within your group.

Just a Touch of Love

- Visit | Postcard | **Email** | Phone | TXT | Facebook
- Be With
- Meet **Physical** Needs
- Force **Multiplication**—Knowing when to involve church staff.

FELLOWSHIP LEADER DESCRIPTION

1. Encourage and equip your class for FELLOWSHIP.
2. Intentionally create opportunities for your class to be together.
3. Actively invite Members, Associate Members and Prospects to Class Fellowships.
4. Encourage your class to invite people outside your group to participate in class fellowships.
5. Assist the Class Leader to manage class time.

Suggested Class Time Structure

Fellowship	5 minutes
Announcements	5 minutes
Outreach in Focus	5 minutes
Worship/Prayer Time	15 minutes
Bible Study	45 minutes

6. Actively participate in the church's outreach ministries.
7. With the other 5 Purpose Leaders, contact ABSENT Class Members and guests.
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Fellowship Leader Basics

“Genuine fellowship is about the life we live together.”

Questions of the Day

- What do you think of when you hear the word FELLOWSHIP?
- What kinds of things does your class do together?

Genuine Fellowship

- Is life TOGETHER.
- Is more than a PARTY.
- Happens INTENTIONALLY.
- Takes TIME.
- Is not COMPLICATED.

The Power of Life Together

- Your Small Group is the family you CHOOSE.
- “Never doubt that a small group of committed Believers can change the world. Do you know why? It the ONLY thing that EVER has.”
- We are STRONGER together.
- **A Time for Fellowship:**
 - SERVE together
 - EAT together
 - VISIT together
 - PLAY together
 - The key is TOGETHER

Practical Pointers for Promoting Fellowship

- Make the most of TEACHABLE MOMENTS.
- Work with the other class leaders to create opportunities for your class to be TOGETHER.
- Include PEOPLE.
 - Small Group MEMBERS
 - Small Group ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
 - Small Group GUESTS
- Make it SIMPLE.
- Make it OFTEN.

IDEAS

- Party ONCE a MONTH.
- Together AFTER Church.
- Pick a Ministry PROJECT.
- Build a FAITH Team.
- Go to KIDS activities.
- Take a TRIP.