RIVER CITY COMMUNITY CHURCH

Life Group Leader Covenant

Emulating Jesus. Building healthy groups. Leading from overflow.

Thank you for saying yes.

Leading a Life Group is not a program assignment. It is a shepherding calling. Jesus changed the world by investing deeply in a small group of people, and He still does His best work that way today. When you open your home and your life, you become the place where someone is finally known, genuinely loved, honestly challenged, and confidently sent.

This covenant is not a contract. It is a shared understanding of what you can count on from us, and what we are trusting you to carry. We commit to it together for one year, and we renew it together each year after that.

"He appointed twelve that they might be with Him and that He might send them out." Mark 3:14

As a Life Group Leader, you can expect:

1. To be valued as a child of God, more for who you are than for what you do.
2. A coach who prays for you, checks in with you every month, and asks about your life, not just your logistics.
3. Encouragement before evaluation. We celebrate progress, not perfection.
4. Practical tools in your hands: weekly sermon discussion questions, the Life Group Leader Guide, and reference materials you can actually use.
5. Quarterly training built for both your soul and your skill.
6. Real support when a situation is bigger than you. You will never carry a crisis alone.
7. To be cared for and celebrated through potlucks, an annual celebration night, and leadership that shepherds you with godliness, compassion, and integrity.

As a Life Group Leader, you commit to:

1. **Lead from overflow.** Abide daily in prayer and Scripture, rest weekly, and keep your own soul healthy before you pour into others. You cannot pour from an empty cup. *John 15:5*
2. **Gather your group consistently.** Meet on the rhythm you have set, communicate midweek, and give every meeting room to connect, open the Word, apply it, and pray together. *Heb. 10:24-25*
3. **Pray for your people by name.** Before group, after group, and in the middle of the week. *1 Thess. 5:16-18*
4. **Pursue people outside the meeting.** Check in personally. Care for members in the ordinary weeks, not only the hard ones. *John 13:34-35*
5. **Lead your group in caring for one another.** Care is the whole group's work, not yours alone. When someone is sick, grieving, or walking through a crisis, mobilize the group to show up: meals, rides, presence, prayer. Teach them to carry each other's burdens so no one in your group faces a hard season alone. *Gal. 6:2*
6. **Prepare intentionally.** Read ahead, plan, and anticipate where the conversation may go. Facilitate transformation rather than perform. Let silence do its work. *Prov. 21:5*
7. **Protect unity.** Address issues early, refuse gossip, and handle conflict in a biblical manner. *Matt. 18:15-17*
8. **Build a place where people are known, loved, challenged, and sent.** Measure your group by transformation, not attendance.
9. **Identify and invest in an apprentice.** Name one person with hunger, availability, and teachability. Invite them in, give them real responsibility, and celebrate them when it is time to release them. *2 Tim. 2:2*

10. **Stay connected to your coach.** Respond to check-ins, welcome a group visit once a quarter, share honestly about your group's health and challenges, and reach out early when you need help. *Eccl. 4:9-10*
11. **Show up for the leadership community.** Attend quarterly trainings, potlucks, and the annual celebration night whenever you are able.
12. **Bring care and safety concerns forward right away.** If someone is in crisis or at risk, contact your coach or the Life Groups Director immediately. Being a good shepherd includes knowing when to call for help.
13. **Renew this commitment annually.** We will revisit it together each year, prayerfully and without pressure.

SIGNS OF A HEALTHY GROUP

- People are known and cared for, and honest conversation is happening.
- Prayer and Scripture are consistent, not occasional.
- There is laughter, food, and real community.
- Someone is being equipped to lead.
- The leader is growing spiritually.

If four or more are true, your group is thriving. If fewer, talk with your coach. That is exactly what they are there for.

Our Commitment to You

You are not doing this alone. We will pray for you, equip you, check on you, and celebrate you. Where you are strong we will cheer. Where you are stretched we will step in. Our goal is not to get more out of you. It is to help you lead in a way you can sustain, and to help you become more like Jesus while you do it.

"Never underestimate what God can do through a small group of ordinary people fully surrendered to Him."

SIGNATURES

I have read this covenant, I understand what it asks of me, and I gladly commit to it for the coming year.

Your coach and director sign as the church's commitment to the support described above.

A signed copy is kept on file with the Life Groups Director. Signatures may be physical or digital.

LIFE GROUP LEADER _____ DATE _____

COACH _____ DATE _____

LIFE GROUPS DIRECTOR _____ DATE _____