

# kick off study

## 1. Launch questions to stimulate discussion:-

**What have been the best things about growth groups you have been in before?**

**What are you looking forward to in this group this year?**

## 2. Bible research: Thinking through the Lord's expectations...

Below is a list of Bible passages that will help us think about what expectations the Lord might have for our growth groups.

Read each passage aloud and discuss what impact it might have on you & this growth group this year.

As you work through each passage write down on a large shared piece of paper these expectations/impacts.

- **Romans 12.9-13**

- **Galatians 6.7-10**

- **Colossians 3.12-17**

- **1Thessalonians 5:14-18**

- **Hebrews 3.12-14**

- **1Peter 4.7-11**

## 3. Our expectations & commitments

### Step 1

Having heard the word of God, as a group, see if you can come up with **a sentence that captures what you'd like to aim for together in your growth group this year.**

### Step 2

As a group, discuss & come to agreement on **a list of expectations for members to commit to so as enable you to achieve this aim together** e.g. preparation, time, openness.

► **Pray for each other and your group for this year.**

**Rom. 12:9** Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. **10** Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves. **11** Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord. **12** Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. **13** Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

**Gal. 6:7** Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. **8** Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. **9** Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. **10** Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

**Col. 3:12** Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. **13** Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. **14** And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. **15** Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. **16** Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. **17** And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**1Th. 5:14** And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone. **15** Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else. **16** Rejoice always, **17** pray continually, **18** give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

**Heb. 3:12** See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. **13** But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. **14** We have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original conviction firmly to the very end.

**1Pet. 4:7** The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray. **8** Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. **9** Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. **10** Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. **11** If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.