

## Northwest Small Group Philosophy

### Better Together by Growing in Christ

God created us for community. We need others to encourage, challenge, inspire, and know us. We are better off when we are together. In small groups, we enter into relationship with other Jesus-followers. We seek Jesus together and He changes us into His likeness. *We are only better together when we are growing in Christ.*

Here at Northwest, Jesus has shaped our hearts with 4 Core Values:

God's Truth  
Over Our  
Opinion

God's People  
Over Our  
Programs

God's Healing  
Over Our  
Hiding

God's Mission  
Over Our  
Comfort

These values are the avenue by which we experience unexpected joy in desperate dependence on Jesus. Living out these values in our groups helps us grow in Christ. We believe Jesus' story intersects our stories, and so we ask each other Core Questions to reveal how Jesus is working in our lives.

### TRUTH

When have you  
taken a risk  
because of  
Jesus?

### PEOPLE

Where are you  
desperately  
dependent on  
Jesus?

### HEALING

How are you  
experiencing  
"unexpected joy"  
from Jesus?

### MISSION

Who are you  
inviting into  
conversations  
about Jesus?

In groups, we want every member of our body to experience:

### TRUTH

God is Truth. We know His Truth Through His Word. In groups, together we:

- Study God's Word
- Wrestle with how God's Truth shapes our hearts & lives
- Point each other toward Truth

We risk to stand on God's Truth when we struggle to believe it, when it opposes our culture and when it causes tension in our relationships. We are better together as we risk to love each other with Truth. To help us grow in this value, we ask:

*When have you taken a risk because of Jesus?*

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## Better Together by Growing in Christ

### PEOPLE

God created us with an inherent need for relationship. In groups, together we:

- **Prioritize each other**
- **Pray for & support one another**
- **Commit to resolving conflict**
- **Care for & meet each other's needs**
- **Grow in Jesus' love for one another**

In a culture that values independence, we believe God often uses His people to show us the beauty of dependence on Jesus. We are better together as we grow in dependence on Jesus and each other. To help us grow in this value, we ask:

***Where are you desperately dependent on Jesus?***

### HEALING

Life is messy and we bring all our brokenness to relationships. In groups, together we:

- **Allow other to see our true selves**
- **Realize we are not the only broken people in need of grace**
- **Admit our struggles, doubts, lies we believe**
- **Point each other to Jesus' grace, mercy and healing**
- **Pray for and champion each other's healing journey**
- **Bring our brokenness out of hiding and into the light**

We are better together when we find freedom and joy in an unexpected place—vulnerability. To help us grow in this value, we ask:

***How are you experiencing "unexpected joy" from Jesus?***

### MISSION

God created us with an inherent need for relationship. In groups, together we:

- **Discover our gifts and serve**
- **Pray for each other's conversations about Jesus**
- **Encourage each other and debrief our conversations about Jesus**

The more we talk about what Jesus has done in our lives with others, we find ourselves growing in our faith. We are better together because we are united in purpose. To help us grow in this value, we ask:

***Who are you inviting into conversations about Jesus?***