

GROUP EFFECTIVENESS CHECKLIST

Periodic evaluation helps keep a group focused, healthy, and productive. After several times together, go through these questions as a group.

Are we making discoveries together?

- Do we come expecting and willing to learn?
- Do we summarize and restate ideas?
- Do we draw on what we have already discussed and discovered together?
- Do we stay on the main thoughts of the passage or issue to discover all we can?
- Do we apply what we learn personally and honestly?
- When discussing the Bible, do we avoid referring to outside sources as the groups' authority (such as sermons, notes in the Bible, TV, movies, books, stories)?
- Do we prepare before we come to the discussion?

What is the group climate?

- Are all contribution accepted and valued?
- Is everyone listened to and encouraged to participate?
- Is it safe to express one's feelings and struggles?

Are we practicing healthy group behavior?

- Do we refrain from side conversations during the group discussion time?
- Do we recognize tangents and make a point of putting them on hold until after the discussion?

[See reverse side]

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[See reverse side]

- Do we avoid monopolizing the discussion?
- Do we try to get beyond tunnel vision (seeing only one issue)?
- Are we sensitive to needs without becoming a therapy group (trying to solve each other's problems)?
- Are we giving honest responses rather than saying only what we think is expected?
- Are we maintaining the purpose of the group discussions rather than using the time and connections for business concerns or for selling things (such as candy, tickets, etc.)?
- If we have decided to pray together in our group, are we keeping prayers short, simple, specific, suitable, and safe?
- Do we call or email when we are unable to attend our group?
- Do we make attendance of our group a high priority and come on time?
- Do we end the discussion on time?

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