

**INTEGRATING  
THE MISSION  
& VISION OF  
HHBC**



**COMMUNITY GROUP**

***LEADERSHIP TRAINING***

# ***THE FIVE PURPOSES OF A COMMUNITY GROUP***

1. Reaching people for Christ
2. Teaching people the Bible
3. Ministering to one another in the Community Group
4. Serving the Lord as a Community Group
5. Integrating the mission and vision of Henderson Hills Baptist Church to the Community Group

Integration can be a beautiful thing. Integration is when two distinct elements come together to form something even greater than the sum of their parts. Think about peanut butter and jelly: both are good on their own, but together, they create an iconic sandwich. Or consider strawberries and chocolate—each delicious solo, but combined, they make a dessert that’s almost irresistible. Milk and cookies? A classic example of how perfect partners can enhance each other.

In much the same way, integrating mission and vision in the church creates a unified direction and purpose that enhances the quality and effectiveness of both. Mission gives us the “why,” the foundational reason for all we do, while vision gives us the “where,” the forward-focused goal we aim to achieve. Integration ensures these two work together seamlessly, guiding us as one body toward impactful action.

For Community Groups, this integration is not just theoretical—it’s deeply practical.

Faith is not meant to be passive. As followers of Christ, we are called to step out in obedience, integrating what we believe with what we do. In Community Groups, this means taking the truths of God’s Word and applying them. This mandate for action is rooted in Scripture. James 1:22 reminds us: “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”

Community Groups play a vital role in the life of Henderson Hills Baptist Church. They provide a context for deep relationships, spiritual growth, and active participation in God’s mission. To align your Community Group with the mission and vision of Henderson Hills, it is essential to understand these statements and incorporate them intentionally into your group’s activities and purpose.

***Our Vision is to glorify God by becoming a hub for an all-ages disciple-making movement.***

***Our Mission is to equip one another to love Jesus and live sent.***

As you read through this handbook, remember the beauty of integration. Like peanut butter and jelly, strawberries and chocolate, or milk and cookies, the union of mission and vision strengthens the impact of each. Together, we can do far more than we could apart, reflecting Christ’s love and purpose in everything we do.

# ***FIVE PURPOSES OF A CG & HOW TO INTEGRATE THE MISSION & VISION OF THE CHURCH***

## **1. REACHING PEOPLE FOR CHRIST**

One of the most vital purposes of Community Groups is Reaching People for Christ. This is more than just a goal—it’s a joyful mandate to share the love of Jesus, invite others into a personal relationship with Him, and warmly welcome newcomers into the life of the church.

**Here’s how your Community Group can “love Jesus and live sent” effectively:**

### **A. Share the Gospel Through Personal Testimonies**

- Plan a CG where members practice sharing concise, relatable stories of how they came to know Christ. Organize outreach events like community service or neighborhood gatherings to connect and share faith.

### **B. Invite People Into a Relationship with Jesus**

- Pray intentionally: Dedicate time each meeting to pray for specific individuals your group will try to reach. Keep a shared list and celebrate answered prayers.
- Encourage personal invitations: Challenge CG members to invite friends, coworkers, or family to worship, group meetings, or church events.

### C. Welcome Newcomers Warmly

- Enlist a Social/Outreach Leader: Designate them to lead members to greet visitors, introduce them, and help them feel at home.
- Follow up with guests with personalized notes, texts, or calls to express appreciation and invite them back.
- Foster a culture of openness by encouraging group members to make room for newcomers.

### D. Partner with Henderson Hills Baptist Church

- Promote outreach by encouraging group participation in evangelistic efforts like VBS, Community Christmas, mission trips, service projects, and seasonal outreach.
- Attend and celebrate baptisms as a group, showcasing the impact of reaching others.
- Collaborate with church staff to identify ways your group can support ongoing mission and outreach programs.

*Reaching people for Christ is putting our faith into action—this is Christ’s greatest mission.*

### E. Pray and Plan for Multiplication

- Multiplication is the core of discipleship and our church’s purpose. Building real relationships and sending members to start new Community Groups has always been challenging.
- Multiplication should be our Community Group ministry’s fabric. Each new CG leader is a disciple multiplied. If multiplication is our focus, new leaders emerge, new CGs are multiplied, and people are reached for Jesus.

- Challenge CG members to step out in faith and start their own groups, expanding the reach of disciple-making efforts.

## Closing Encouragement

As James 1:22 reminds us, we are called to be “doers of the word.” Reaching people for Christ means putting faith into action by actively sharing the gospel, loving others with intentionality, and welcoming them into the community. When your group prioritizes this purpose, you’re participating in the greatest mission of all—drawing others into the eternal hope found in Jesus Christ.

Let’s go beyond simply meeting together. Let’s integrate our mission by reaching outward, and inviting others to experience the life-changing power of the gospel.

## 2. TEACHING PEOPLE THE BIBLE

Teaching people the Bible is one of the highest priorities for Community Groups. It requires preparation, passion, and a commitment to fostering an environment where biblical truth can be understood, applied, and lived out.

**Here’s how your Community Group can “make disciples” effectively:**

### A. Prepare Diligently for Each Bible Lesson

- Utilize the Community Group Discussion Guide to save time on study and preparation. Faithful Henderson Hills volunteers have prepared a guide with trustworthy Bible study resources. Use it to familiarize yourself with the content and cut preparation time in half.

- Use Helpful Study Resources. Start early if you prepare your own study. Pray, seek God’s guidance, and invest in solid, doctrinally trustworthy study resources.

## **B. Make the Bible Accessible and Engaging**

- Ask open-ended questions to encourage discussion. For example, “What stands out to you?” “What inspired you?” “What bothered you?” “What confused you?” “Is there something you didn’t understand?” “How does this apply to your life?”

## **C. Create a Relational Environment**

- Create a welcoming atmosphere with relationship-building conversations, prayer, and a warm greeting. Encourage active listening and respect for differing perspectives. Adapt your approach based on your group’s level of spiritual understanding.

*Teaching people  
the Bible results in  
lives changed to  
love Jesus and  
live sent.*

## **D. Emphasize Transformation Over Information**

- Focus on Heart Change: As you teach, continually ask, “What does God want us to do with this truth?”
- Encourage Accountability: Create space for group members to share how they are applying what they’ve learned in real life.

## **Closing Encouragement**

Teaching people the Bible isn’t just about increasing knowledge—it’s about “loving Jesus and living sent” through a life of obedience and faith. Teaching the Bible is a sacred trust. By

leaning on God’s strength and striving for excellence, you can fulfill this calling and help your group grow in their love for Christ and His Word.

### **3. MINISTERING TO ONE ANOTHER**

Ministering to one another is one of the most rewarding and impactful purposes of a Community Group. It builds deep relational bonds, creates a sense of belonging, and demonstrates the love of Christ in tangible ways.

**Here’s how your Community Group can “make disciples” effectively:**

#### **A. Create a Culture of Care**

- Encourage group members to share prayer requests, struggles, and life updates during meetings or through group communication. Normalize asking for help by sharing your own needs or challenges. Enlist a Prayer/Care Coordinator to oversee prayer and care efforts.

#### **B. Support in Times of Crisis**

- Visit CG members in the hospital, attend funerals, or pray with one another during difficult seasons. Collect funds or use a group benevolence fund to help cover unexpected expenses. Regularly check-in with those facing prolonged challenges to ensure support.

*Ministering to one another builds deep emotional bonds, creates belonging, and demonstrates the love of Christ.*



## **D. Celebrate in Times of Honor**

- Recognize significant milestones with cards, gifts, or gatherings. Welcome new babies with showers or essentials. Acknowledge accomplishments during meetings.

## **E. Develop an Effective Prayer Ministry**

- Send a weekly prayer report. Pray intentionally and consistently. Set aside time for prayer during meetings. Recognize the Prayer/Care Coordinator for maintaining and sending a shared prayer list and celebrating answered prayers. Pray on the spot when someone shares a need.

## **Closing Encouragement**

Ministering to one another fulfills the biblical command to “carry each other’s burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ” (Galatians 6:2). It shows that every member matters and that the church deeply cares.

When your Community Group prioritizes ministering to one another, it creates a safe, supportive, and loving environment where God’s love is made visible through action. This not only strengthens the group but also serves as a powerful testimony to others.

# **4. SERVING THE LORD AS A COMMUNITY GROUP**

Serving the Lord together as a Community Group can transform lives—not only of those being served but also of the group members themselves. Shared service creates lasting bonds, deepens faith, and gives members the joy of fulfilling God’s command to love and minister to others.

## Here's how your Community Group can make the most of serving opportunities:

### A. Select a Cause to Serve

- Choose a cause that resonates with your group's gifts and passions. Discuss interests and evaluate our church's ministry opportunities: Hillside Kids, Student Ministry, Men's Ministry, Women's Ministry, College & Young Adult Ministry, Foster and Adoption Care, or Celebrate Recovery. Para-church ministry opportunities include Boys Ranch Town, Project 66, or Arise Single Mom's Ministry.

### B. Enlist a Mission/Discipleship Coordinator

- Appoint a Mission/Discipleship Coordinator to oversee planning and coordinating CG service efforts. A Mission/Discipleship Coordinator will handle communication and ensure details are clear. The Mission/Discipleship Coordinator will help schedule a time to serve that works for most members. They will also prepare for serving in advance by finding out what's needed.

*Serving the Lord together gives members the joy of fulfilling God's command to love and minister to others.*

### C. Celebrate Wins and Debrief Service Opportunities

- Build relationships by sharing laughs, taking photos, and creating memories. Celebrate the camaraderie that comes from working together. Encourage teamwork by dividing tasks and involving everyone, from setup to cleanup. Pray together before and after serving for the

people or organization and your group's impact. Reflect and celebrate afterward by sharing stories, affirming members' contributions, and planning the next adventure.

## **Closing Encouragement**

Serving the Lord together will knit your Community Group closer, create shared memories, and deepen your collective faith. The relationships built, lives touched, and experiences shared will leave a lasting mark on your group, the church, and the community. Be bold, be generous, and trust God to do extraordinary things through your willingness to serve.

## **5. INTEGRATING THE MISSION & VISION OF HENDERSON HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH**

Henderson Hills has a clear and God-given mission statement born out of prayer and thoughtful discernment. This mission serves as a guiding compass, setting the trajectory for our church and distinguishing us in our call to faithfully serve the Lord.

### **A. Community Groups Bridge the Gap**

- Community Groups bridge the gap between the church's vision and its practical execution. Leaders identify this challenge: translating our mission and vision into tangible action within Community Groups.

### **B. A Call to Action**

- Henderson Hills' mission and vision provide a unified banner for every Community Group. It's not just a statement but a call to action, a reminder of our shared purpose, and a guide for group activities. By integrating

this mission into your Community Group, you advance obedience to God’s call, unity within the church, and passion for the Kingdom. Community Groups are builders of the vision.

### **C. Five Steps to Integrate the Mission & Vision into Your Group**

- **Communicate Clearly:** Regularly remind your group of the church’s mission and vision during meetings, using it to frame prayer requests, discussions, and decisions.
- **Direct Your Focus:** Evaluate your group’s activities and ask, “How does this align with our mission?” Ensure your group’s teaching, ministry, service, and outreach support the church’s Mission and Vision.

***Our mission and vision sets the trajectory and distinguishes us in our calling to faithfully serve the Lord.***

- **Build a Leadership Team:** Building a Community Group Leadership Team is crucial for achieving its five purposes. A diverse team brings unique gifts and perspectives, enhancing the group’s depth and balance. Sharing responsibilities prevents overburdening and ensures comprehensive coverage of the group’s goals. This collaborative approach strengthens the group’s impact and models biblical discipleship principles, mutual support, and spiritual growth.
- **Engage in Church-Wide Initiatives:** Encourage participation in church-wide efforts, demonstrating how Community Groups are essential to fulfilling the larger mission.

- **Create Accountability:** Periodically evaluate your group's alignment with the mission and vision. Invite feedback from group members to ensure everyone understands and supports the purpose.

## **Closing Encouragement**

Community Groups are a vital bridge between the mission of Henderson Hills and its fulfillment in the lives of our congregation and community. By embracing the church's vision, your group becomes part of something bigger than itself—a unified movement glorifying God through worship, discipleship, service, and outreach.

Let's work together to integrate this mission into the heart of every Community Group, allowing the culture of Henderson Hills to shine brightly for His Kingdom.

# ***EVALUATING YOUR COMMUNITY GROUP'S ALIGNMENT***

To ensure your Community Group stays aligned with the mission and vision of Henderson Hills Baptist Church, consider these questions:

- Have we been building a Leadership Team capable of accomplishing the five Purposes?
- Are we equipping one another to love Jesus and live sent?

- How are we making disciples?  
(micro-groups, mentorships)
- What steps are we taking to multiply leaders and start new groups?
- Are our activities glorifying God and contributing to the disciple-making movement?
- How are we praying for and participating in the broader mission of the church?

By integrating the mission and vision of Henderson Hills into your Community Group, you become an essential part of a disciple-making movement that glorifies God and impacts the world. Pray for wisdom and guidance as you lead your group in this effort. Remember, the ultimate goal is to equip one another to love Jesus and live sent, multiplying disciples who make disciples for the glory of God.





**HENDERSON HILLS**  
BAPTIST CHURCH