

# GROUP LEARNING AGREEMENT

The purpose of a group learning agreement is to help create a safe and trusting environment in which your members can thrive. It is generally best to do this exercise with your group as you begin your time together. After your group has created its own learning agreement, keep it accessible; periodically look back at it as a group to see how you are doing.

## Questions for Creating a Group Learning Agreement

- Think about a positive group experience you have had. What made it positive?
- Think about a negative group experience - what made it negative?
- We would like for this to be a positive learning experience for each of us. What would that look like for you? (Have someone write these things on a flip chart.)
- For everyone to feel safe and able to share all that God is teaching them, we want to create a Group Learning Agreement.

What do you need to have on the list so that you will feel free to share with the group? (Circle these on the flip chart list or make a new list.)

- Do we all agree to honor these things?
- I will post our Group Learning Agreement on our group chat (or on whatever platform you are using) so that we can come back to it whenever it is helpful.
- **Note:** It is helpful to define terms so that everyone is on the same page about what the words means, i.e., confidentiality.

## Make Sure the Following Areas Are Addressed

- Confidentiality
- Verbal space – taking your (one) piece of the pie – the need for some people to speak up and others to hold back in the discussion to give room for everyone's voice to be heard

## Group Dynamics that Often Come Up

Be ready to ask the group about any of the following areas if you believe they are important for your group, and they haven't been brought up by anyone.

- Being on time
- Being prepared
- Loving well
- Thinking the best of one another
- Honesty
- Vulnerability
- Listening well

