

- RUSH CREEK GROUPS -

# LISTENING GUIDE

# WELCOME!

Hi there everyone!

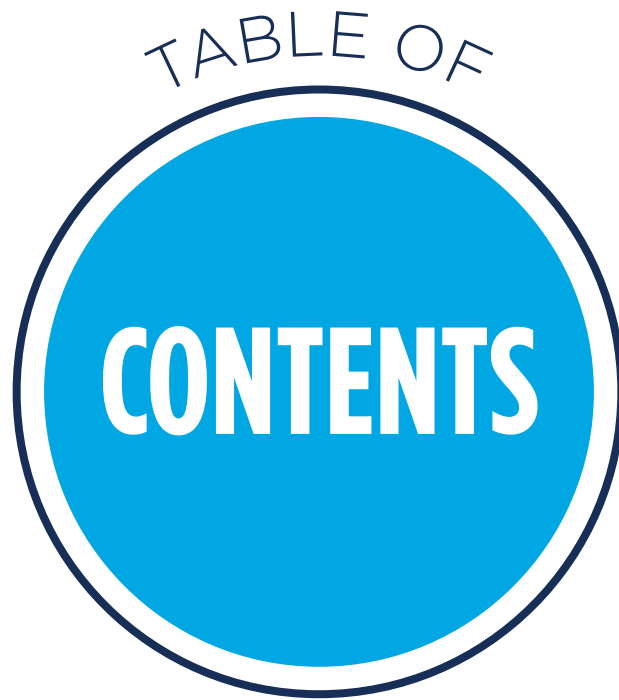
I'm so excited to have you at Small Group Leader Orientation. You took a bold step of faith. You've decided to gather some friends, and you started a small group. One of the things I want to say to you first off is, "Congratulations!" God is going to use you in an incredible way! God is going to take you the way you are, an ordinary person, and he's going to use you in extraordinary ways. In this adventure of small group orientation, we're going to take you through four modules that will help you understand how Rush Creek small groups are set up, the responsibilities of a leader, the wins as a group, and how we'll support you in your leadership journey. In fact, we've organized these modules around the top 10 questions we've been asked by new leaders through the years. Is there more than 10 questions? Probably. However, we designed this orientation to provide you with everything you NEED to know to build, sustain, and lead healthy biblical community at Rush Creek. Enjoy your time of preparation!

Same Team,



**Josh Rose, Ph.D**

Group Life Pastor  
Rush Creek Church



## Introduction

Preparing Yourself For An Adventure

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## Module 1

Small Groups Strategic Overview (Questions 1-7)

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## Module 2

Nuts-N-Bolts of Rush Creek Small Groups (Questions 8-9)

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## Module 3

Critical Tools for Success (Question 10)

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## Module 4

Your Path Forward (Wrap up)

# Leader Orientation Introduction

## Prepare Yourself For An Adventure

Keep these things in mind:

**Don't compare yourself to others.** Comparing isn't productive. You'll either feel jealous (I will be worse than...) or prideful (I will be better than...). Both are negative responses. View all the mistakes and failures others have made as an opportunity for you to learn.

**Resist the fear of the unknown.** We're all fearful of the unknown but the good news is...you're not alone! You are filled with the power of the living God and surrounded by other leaders, coaches, and a groups team that is dedicated to helping you.

**Healthy biblical community takes time to build.** Decide in your heart, in this moment, that allowing your group time to build relationships and share life experiences is okay. Healthy biblical community does not happen overnight.

**Don't watch all orientation videos in the same sitting.** People are not wired to learn so many new things over a long period of time. We get brain fog and tired (remember the SAT!). Instead, break up your viewing into 1 video a day or a couple of videos per day. This will ensure you stay fresh, focused, and ready to jot down your questions and follow along in your listening guide.

For the next 4 modules we will address the top 10 questions every leader needs to know. There is a tendency we all have...and its to want to know everything before we begin something new. We've found that when a leader begins their leadership journey, providing them only what they NEED to know and then allowing what they SHOULD know to come along the way serves them best.

So, we've compiled the top 10 questions leaders NEED to know and we're excited to get started. As we get going, please make sure to jot down your notes and questions you have. If something isn't clear or you want to know a bit more, please know after you've completed these modules you will have a sit down 1v1 with your campus groups pastor to talk through any or all these 10 questions.

Ok. Let's get to those questions.

**Biblical Community is God's Idea**

- LEADER ORIENTATION -

# MODULE -1-

## **Small Groups Strategic Overview**

“He cared for them with a true heart and led them with skillful hands.”  
-Psalms 78:72 (NLT)

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## Small Groups Strategic Overview

*"Since a dull ax requires great strength, sharpen the blade. That's the value of wisdom; it helps you succeed."* Ecclesiastes 10:10 (NLT)

*"If you wait for perfect conditions, you will never get anything done."* -Ecclesiastes 11:4 (LB)

## Notes:

### Q1: What types of groups do we have at Rush Creek?

#### 1. Care Groups: finding freedom

Care groups operate from a prescribed curriculum around a felt need. Each group varies in length. At Rush Creek we have Divorce Care, Divorce Care for Kids, Shiloh, Embrace Grace, Grief Share, ReGeneration

#### 2. D-Groups: groups focused on raising up and sending out forerunners

Each group is led by a leader, follows a curriculum plan, and works towards multiplying within 1-2 years.

#### 3. Small Groups: a group of people committed to following Christ in biblical community

### Q2: How do Small Groups fit in our church?

At Rush Creek we want our partners to:

- \_\_\_\_\_ God
- \_\_\_\_\_ Biblical Community
- \_\_\_\_\_ their Gifts
- \_\_\_\_\_ Unity

Engage in Biblical Community:

Weekend Services- worship style & preaching that matches your target audience

First Step Experience- orientation to church, personal commitment to church

Small Groups- one another community, bible study, accountability, encouragement

[illegible]

- We want everyone in groups to live with a set free.

**Q7: As we go about this important work as groups, how will we keep our biblical community healthy?**

### Notes:

## Our values as groups at Rush Creek



See our Group Agreement video (This will be the first study your group will walk through)



- LEADER ORIENTATION -

# MODULE - 2 -

## **Nuts-N-Bolts of Rush Creek Small Groups**

“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.”  
-Colossians 3:16 (NIV)

Nuts-N-Bolts of Rush Creek Small Groups

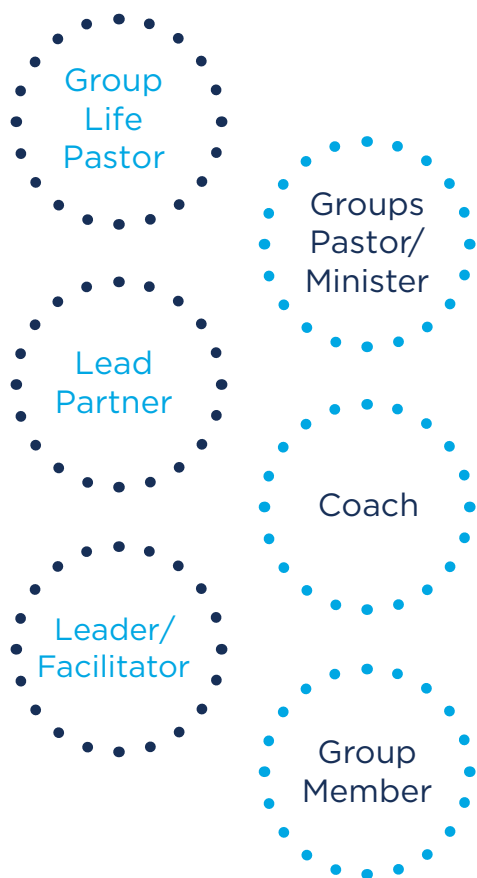
Notes:

Q8: How is our ministry organized?

Our ministry design features

- group \_\_\_\_\_ driven
- \_\_\_\_\_ catalog driven
- invest and \_\_\_\_\_ culture
- \_\_\_\_\_-paced groups
- leader \_\_\_\_\_ form of meeting
- strategic care \_\_\_\_\_
- open groups

Q9: Who leads the groups ministry?



Your job duties:

- Walk through group leader role description
- Walk through Lead Partner role description

Your coach's duties:

- Walk through the coach's role description
- Small Group Leader: (See handout)

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# MODULE - 3 -

## Critical Tools for Success

"Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it."  
-Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)

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## Critical Tools for Success

*Notes:*

### Q10: How will groups be supported by the church?

#### Our groups support system

\_\_\_\_\_ Guardrail via strategic care coaching

\_\_\_\_\_ Guardrail via curriculum pathway & leader development plan (3-2-1)

Vitamin Supplements: leader resource site

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#### Our groups multiplication plan

- \_\_\_\_\_ leader development
  - Coaching \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_ well resource
- .....

#### Preventative maintenance for our groups

- \_\_\_\_\_ Management
  - Surveys
  - Focus \_\_\_\_\_
- .....

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# MODULE

- 4 -

## Your Path Forward

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.”

-1 John 1:7 (NIV)

[illegible]

- 1 Contact your campus groups pastor/minister for follow up questions.
- 2 Prayer (evil is mobilizing)
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ coach
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ for your first \_\_\_\_\_ (group agreement)
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ couple
- 6 Launch your group