



# Group Development Plan

## Roadmap for Group Success

If you want people to follow you, you must first know where you're going. The Connect Group Leadership Development Plan will become your personalized roadmap to a successful Connect Group. Make it your own and get started as soon as possible. Feel free to reach out to your Coach or Hub Coordinator if you need help getting pointed in the right direction.

### My Vision for our Connect Group is:

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Need help filling in the blank space? That's okay. Your vision is God-inspired, important to Hope City, and vital to your Group. It's worth getting right. Take some time now to pause, pray, and listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit. Remember, groups are all about helping others make connections, find freedom, and take next steps in their faith. Use the questions below to prayerfully discover your vision. After you do, write a brief vision statement in the space above.

### What are my unique experiences, passions, and gifts that can be used to help others take next steps?

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What do I think relationships should look like in my group?

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How will people in my group become better versions of themselves?

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What impact will my Group have on Hope City and the community where we live?

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When we get together, my Connect Group will:

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The foundation of Groups at Hope City is built on the **ESPN** model: **E**ncourage, **S**cripture, **P**rayer, and **N**ext Steps. Below are some common elements that make up a Connect Group and some information to help you fill in the space above. The format for your Group is up to you. Mix and match the parts to write a brief description of what you will do when you get together.

**Eat Together** - Some groups enjoy coffee, a light snack, or even a meal together. What will that look like for you? Are you meeting at a restaurant or coffee shop where people can treat themselves? Will you be meeting at your home (or someone else's) and ask people to bring something to share? Eating together leaves room for casual conversation and personal relationships to grow.

**Have Fun** - Some groups are activity-based and participate in things like bike riding or ultimate frisbee. Even Bible study and discussion groups can engage in an icebreaker or game before digging into the content. These activities open the door for folks to let down their guard and relax.

**Grow Together** - All groups make time to “spur one another on to love and good deeds” (Hebrews 10:24) through intentional discussion. What will you discuss?

Discussion options:

- Hope City Sermon Discussion: <https://hopecity.com/sermon-resources/>
- Hope City Featured Curriculums: <https://hopecity.com/connect-group-leader-resources/>
- Resources found on Right Now Media: <https://bit.ly/2Qvn25O>

*If you want to use a curriculum that is NOT included in one of these resources, please submit it to our Group Director for approval before beginning.*

**Serve Together** - Groups that serve together, grow together. The strongest groups serve together at their campus and with our local mission partners.

<https://hopecity.com/get-connected/missions/local-missions/>

Here are some project ideas:

<https://hopecity.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/First-Saturday-Serve-Ideas.pdf>

**Pray Together** - Prayer is the foundation of everything we do at Hope City and so it should be in our groups as well. Healthy Groups share their needs with each other and pray together each time they meet. Not everyone needs to pray out loud, but that would be a great goal as you grow together.

**Are we open to having children attend our group? If so, what will that look like?**

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Our Connect group will meet at a great place:

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Our Connect Group will get together on these days at this time:

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Our Connect Group will not be empty because we are going to:

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Here are some tips to fill in the space above and your Connect Group.

1. Invite people you already know.
2. Sign up to serve for the Connect Group Launch at your campus and personally invite people.
3. Invite people with shared interests. People you serve with, work out with, pick up kids from HCKids with, or share a hobby with.
4. Register your Group at <https://rock.hopecity.com/LeadAConnectGroup> and respond quickly and personally to people who inquire. Sample: <https://bit.ly/3LpJTrp>
5. Post it on all of your social media outlets: FaceBook, Instagram, LinkedIn, NextDoor, etc.

## I'm going to own my growth. Here's my development plan:

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Our personal growth is essential. We have provided some ideas to help you fill in the space above. But you must take ownership of your growth first. You will grow most when you get into the game and begin to lead your Connect Group. As you encounter challenges and opportunities, we want you to have access to the resources you need.

- Commit to daily spiritual habits: prayer, worship, Bible reading, journaling, sharing your faith
- Make use of our leadership tools:  
<https://hopecity.com/connect-group-leader-resources/>
- Make arrangements to meet with your coach regularly
- Commit to discover who God created you to be:
  - [Personality Type](#)
  - [Spiritual Gifts Assessment](#)
  - [Strengths Finder](#)

## I need to follow up with my Coach concerning:

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Thank you for your YES! Connect Groups are foundational to Hope City, and they don't happen without people like you. You have boldly stepped up to open your hearts, homes, and schedules to those around you. We believe in you and will be with you every step of the way.

*Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track. Proverbs 3:5-6 MSG*