

Ministry Role - Growth Group Leader

Reports To: Grow Pastor (James Sneddon)

Key Requirements

- A growing trust in Jesus and His gospel, expressed through the pursuit of personal godliness and active membership in one of the JAC congregations;
- Character endorsement from staff or other leaders;
- F-A-T: **faithfulness** in responsibility, **availability** to commit to the role, **teachable** willing to receive feedback with humility and pursue personal development

Ministry Purpose (the 'Why')

- At Jannali Anglican Church we want to see 'All for Christ Jesus'. That is, to see every knee bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to God's glory (Phil 2:10-11).
- An important element in this work is helping saved people grow in Christian maturity. God's chosen means of growing people in Christ is through the persevering, prayerful proclamation of his Word, amongst people.
- Whilst not the only method, growth groups are a crucial pathway for Christian growth. They allow for more in-depth study of God's word, more focused prayer, and a better expression of loving community than can be achieved on our own, or in larger groups (like weekend gatherings).

Your Role (the 'What')

Your role is to work through your group to promote growth in Christ amongst your group members, using the means God gives us: bible, prayer, loving relationship.

Essential Tasks (the 'How')

- 1. Selection and preparation of biblically faithful study material;
- 2. Prayer for your growth group ministry and group members;
- 3. Leading the group time in studying the bible and praying for one another;
- 4. Promoting a community of love and mutual encouragement amongst your group members;
- 5. Participating in growth group leaders meeting once-a-term; either all-in or in small networks
- 6. Intentional reflection upon effectiveness of your leadership and willingness to work at developing as a growth group leader. (See Appendix 1: Developing as a Growth Group Leader)

Support & Resources Provided

- Pastoral care, guidance and leadership development from the Grow Pastor (James Sneddon) and your Grow Ministry Coach (tbc)
- Encouragement and equipping through termly Growth Group leader meetings
- Access to resources and collaboration: e.g. team emails, resource list, Facebook Group etc.



Appendix 1: Developing as a Growth Group Leader

Leading a growth group is a skill that develops over time with training and experience. It can be helpful to think of three rough levels of growth group leadership. In reality, these levels are artificial and can't be understood rigidly. Some GGLs will exhibit characteristics at each level. Notwithstanding that, and not overlooking God's sovereign control, or the importance of our godly character, we should reflect on our own strengths and weakness and aim to develop as an effective GGL. Speak with the Grow Pastor or your network peers about how you might work to 'raise your level'. (*Note: GGL = Growth Group Leader*)

Prayerful dependance on God and awareness that he gives growth through his Word and Spirit, despite our weakness

Personal concern for growth in godly character

Guidance from Grow Ministry Coach and Grow Pastor + use of available training resources + learning from GGL team

Discipler - Mentor

- GGL demonstrates a keen interest in the lives and spiritual welfare of the group members, looking to meet with them outside group time where possible.
- GGL offers specific spiritual guidance to members with love, wisdom and gentleness, including challenging members when warranted.
- GGL clearly models growing obedience to Jesus in all areas of life, including personal spiritual disciplines, evangelism, family leadership, humble service etc.



Teacher - Leader

- GGL is more advanced than group members in bible understanding and theological thinking
- GGL uses advanced knowledge to guide more meaningful discussions/exercises in study time and is able to teach or answer some questions group members raise.
- GGL will be more adept at managing the group dynamics and encouraging the contribution of members



Facilitator - Host

- GGL provides a context, through their leadership and/or hospitality, for the group to engage in bible study and prayer
- GGL understands the importance of Christians growing together and models enthusiasm for fellowship around God's word
- GGL may not be advanced in knowledge, answering questions or managing group dynamics but will usher the group through their time together