

Annual Goal Setting Session

For Small Groups

Welcome

Share what God did through the Christmas and holiday period.

Worship

Thank God together in an authentic way through prayer, testimony or song.

Word

(1) Vision cast by the leader

- Share on your churches vision and upcoming key events for the year – and the potential of your small group.
- Cast a vision for making the most of the year to grow and to serve God.

Create a sense of anticipation. God gives new opportunities!

(2) Goal setting activity

Give members a copy of the goal sheet + guide as a prompt.

- Remind that there is no point in setting unrealistic goals.
- Members don't have to have goals in every area.

Give members time to write a few goals

Spend time sharing one or two areas each that you most want to grow in.

(3) Considering your part in God's Mission for the year

Thought: God's heart remains for the lost. This is the mission of the Church, and of every Christian, until Christ returns.

(a) Opening (fun) question: If you could guarantee success in seeing any one person on earth choosing become a Christian, who would it be, and why?

(b) Identifying exercise: Identify your 'five'

- 1 - Five friends you want to encourage toward faith,
- 2 - hindrances for prayer and conversation,
- 3 - interests as connection points for yourself and your small group.)

(c) Discuss some of these who you'd like to reach out to, protecting anonymity where appropriate, considering first steps.

(d) Pray for them – while noting you'll pray monthly for these people as a group throughout the coming year.

(4) Other general encouragements

The leader could encourage members in other areas such as

- **Regular Bible reading** (We suggest a MONTHLY habit in small groups of asking for any recent learnings from personal Bible reading).
- **Regular involvement at church and small group** (We suggest a habit of following up with those not seen for a couple of weeks, to see how they are, to then bring practical help in ways you can.)

(5) Prayer

- Pray for your group and members
- Pray for those you would like to reach out to in the coming year.

Works

- Cast vision for the upcoming terms activities in your church / youth group and small group.
 - Promote next week's gathering to create anticipation.
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Note to leader: Requesting and gathering a copy of members goals (a) gives a mandate to your discussion content (to help them achieve their goals), and (b) empowers you to bring intentionality in other ways (encouraging them – to help them achieve their goals).

- We suggest a discussion on the topic of 'your God-given potential' or similar be had mid-year, *during which these goals are returned to each member for discussion, testimony and revision.*
- We suggest the same be done in November – for discussion, testimony and consideration of the following years' goals.
- You will then discover how measurable growth-points in EVERY member can be achieved when there is intentional encouragement toward this.

Note to leader: We suggest leaders collect the first name and 'interests' of each person's 'five'. Here is why.

- Monthly prayer for each persons 'five' as a group reminds of the vision, and will bring God's help.
- Monthly testimony ins your small group about conversations attempted with these people will remind of the vision, encourage and equip!
- Two small group socials per term, based around their friends' interests, will see bridges built.

Goals for the year ahead

PERSONAL GOALS GUIDE

1. SPIRITUAL

a. Worship – Goals to know God better

- Devotional life – bible reading, prayer, journaling?
- Will you persevere in these during busy periods at school?
- What holiness issues are there in your life? What will you do to rectify these?

b. Fellowship – Goals to honouring God's family and your place in it

- Will you be committed to Worship services and your CG?
- Will you be committed to a PACE partnerships / prayer group?
- Are there foreseeable busy periods which you would like to grow to sustain this commitment through?

c. Discipleship – Goals for learning and growing

- Book reading goals? (for spiritual and also other areas of needed growth)
- Family growth goals (as a parent / spouse / child).
- Seminars / extra training you need and are willing to attend?
- Attitude to weekly services and CG times...

d. Ministry – Goals for serving God through all areas of life

- How will you serve God at home, work, school, Church, Cell Group?

e. Evangelism – Goals for reaching out to others (your 'five')

- Who will you seek to reach, engage, encourage toward faith?
- What might hinder them on this journey (for prayer and conversation)
- What are their interests (connection points for you and your small group)

2. PHYSICAL – Goals for physical health

- Do I need more exercise
- Do I need better sleep patterns?
- Do I need to modify what I eat?

3. WORK / EDUCATION – Goals for career and career development

- What am I aiming for?
- What will I do to accomplish this?
- What attitude do I need in this so as to honour God?

4. FAMILY – Goals for strengthening your family life

- What do you desire? What could you do?

Goals for the year ahead

PERSONAL GOALS

1. SPIRITUAL

a. Worship – Goals for getting to personally know God better

b. Fellowship – Goals for honouring God's family and your place in it

c. Discipleship – Goals for learning and growing

d. Ministry – Goals for serving God through all areas of life

e. Evangelism – Goals for reaching out to others

2. PHYSICAL – Goals for physical health

3. WORK / EDUCATION – Goals for career and career development

4. FAMILY – Goals for strengthening your family life

5. OTHERS – Other goals you have