**Fall 2025 Growth Groups**

**Itinerary for your 1st Growth Group Meeting**

1. **First 5 Minutes:** Allow people to arrive and talk. Leaders – be sure to be ready to receive people in-person or online 10 min before the group begins. Arrive early.
2. **Introductions:** Have everyone introduce themselves and share what they do, where they are from, and why they decided to join the group. (10 min)
3. **Introduce the group study:** Walk through **GG Syllabus**. Answer any questions. Remind your group that this study will go along with The Journey’s fall teaching series, *Character Counts: Living the Fruit of the Spirit***.** End this section by reading Galatians 5:22-23 aloud together. (5 minutes)
4. **Talk through chapter one of *Bearing Spiritual Fruit*:** Keep in mind that not everyone will have read, so focus on the “Thinking It Through” questions on page nine.
   1. Reflect on some specific qualities you would love for God to develop in you. List a few  characteristics or strengths below...possibly some that are in the Fruit of the Spirit...
   2. Has God allowed some things to be taken from you? ...maybe the loss of a loved one?  ...perhaps a financial setback such as the loss of a job? ...possibly part of your health or  other misfortune? What comes to your mind?
   3. In retrospect, in what ways do you see that God brought something good out of the loss or  hurt? Was there some result you did not expect? How do you see now that the Lord  produced the fruit of patience in you, for example...gave you joy in the midst of  suffering...or taught you to love in some way?
   4. What’s next? What are your next steps in following God through this study?
5. **Growth Group Covenant**: Read through the Covenant carefully with the group. Explain the points as you read each one. Answer any questions. If anyone tries to be difficult and disagreeable, offer to talk with them individually at the end of the meeting. (10 min)
6. **Explain and ask for volunteers for the different roles within the group:**

Snack Coordinator, Fun Event Coordinator, Prayer Coordinator, etc. (5 min)

1. **Share prayer requests and pray together.** (10 min)
2. **Talk** – Give people a few minutes to talk before ending the group.