

**UMC DOC**

United Methodist Church  
Disciples Of Christ

---

**PRIMER**

**UMC DOC Primer**

Copyright 2015 © Manila Episcopal Area, Philippines Central Conference of The United Methodist Church

*All rights reserved.*

This book may not be copied or reprinted for commercial gain or profit. The use of short quotations or occasional page copying for personal or group study is permitted, on condition that the source is indicated.

Published by the Manila Episcopal Area of the  
PCC-UMC and Discipleship Resources-Philippines  
UMC Headquarters, 900 United Nations Ave.,  
Ermita, Manila, Philippines

Book design by Cheenee Bautista

Printed in the Philippines

# CONTENTS

Foreword, *v*

Introduction, *vii*

A Brief Description of Disciples of Christ (DOC) Ministry, *1*

The Basic Patterns that UMC DOC Emphasizes, *10*

Two Aspects of the Equipping Track, *15*

Processes for DOC Ministry, *16*

CARE Group Ministry, *18*

Conducting CARE Group Meeting, *22*

Guidelines in Doing Personal Daily Devotion, *24*

UMC DOC Network Gathering/Conference, *26*



# FOREWORD

There are countless strategies for missions, evangelism, and discipleship that are offered by many writers and denominations. Some are effective and some are not. For many years, the Manila Episcopal Area (MEA) has been wanting and waiting for an effective discipleship program to be used by pastors and lay people to disciple members and, in turn, make them disciple makers. UMC DOC (United Methodist Church-Disciples of Christ) is the answer to this dilemma.

UMC DOC will help us fulfill our mission as United Methodists. This program is in harmony with the Wesleyan teachings we love so dearly and is consistent with our UMC teaching and practices. This discipleship program also seeks to address the reported exodus of some members especially the Young People to other “fellowships” that have been causing heartaches to church leaders like me.

I praise God for this program which has proven to be very effective. I am thankful that we can implement this program which is United Methodist in content. I would like to express my thanks to my TEAM who have been so passionate in implementing the program

in the 12 Annual Conferences and 28 Districts of MEA. I especially thank DS John Manalo, my partner, in preparing this primer. In the works is a complete set of manual needed for the implementation of the program.

With the UMC Disciples of Christ strategy, all local churches and every United Methodist in the Area must go through the following process:

- 1) Downloading
- 2) Organize and join CARE groups
- 3) Go through UMC Heartwarming Experience
- 4) Attend Accountable Discipleship Classes (ADCs)

Every Local Church and Worker of the Manila Episcopal Area is mandated to implement UMC DOC as the discipleship program.

I believe that the United Methodist Church has a very bright future because our Lord is not through with His Church. "To love God and love our neighbor" as we obey the Great Commission "Go and make disciples of all nations..."

**REV. DR. RODOLFO A. JUAN**

*Resident Bishop, Manila Episcopal Area*

# INTRODUCTION

The UMC DOC Primer was created to serve as a guide for pastors, deaconesses, and lay members of our church who are passionately applying or longing to apply the UMC DOC Evangelism and Discipleship model.

Included in this primer is a brief description of the UMC DOC Model, how it started, its vision, purpose, goals, core values, system, and strategies. The basic patterns used, the processes involved, and the discipleship track to be undertaken were presented to serve as guidelines in its implementation.

The CARE Group Ministry and how to conduct CARE Group meetings are discussed to fully understand the dynamics and flow of this ministry. CARE Group Ministry is an essential feature and the very foundation on which to effectively implement the UMC DOC pattern.

Guidelines in doing “Personal Daily Devotion” using the SLAP pattern are also discussed. The acronym “SLAP” and its concept originated from G12 materials that were presented through PowerPoint during the “Encounter Retreats” of G12.

Likewise, G12’s Pre-Encounter, Encounter Retreat, and Post-Encounter materials and their corresponding concept were also

adopted to support the DOC ministry in strengthening the basic Christian foundations of new believers; the same are likewise used as resource materials for both workers and lay leaders and members of our church. (Materials for the P.E.P originated from the PowerPoint presentations provided by G12 for those who attended such seminars and took part in the said processes)

UMC DOC Network Gatherings/Conferences are also an essential part of the process that should focus on coaching and goal-setting in order to sustain and inspire implementers of this system. These are included in this primer to serve as guidelines in implementing Network Gatherings.

May this primer help and empower us to rekindle our passion in the implementation of the UMC DOC Model. Conclusively, the main goal of the primer is to assist/support us in accomplishing the Great Commission of Christ.

*Items with (\*) in the book originated from G12 materials*



## A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DISCIPLES OF CHRIST (DOC) MINISTRY

---

UMC DOC (United Methodist Church's Disciples of Christ) is a basic evangelism and discipleship pattern adopted by the Manila Episcopal Area with its 12 Annual Conferences consisting of 28 Districts. DOC Ministry was launched in March 2013 from the directive of its Resident Bishop, Rev. Dr. Rodolfo A. Juan. He deputized the Rev. Magusig B. Manalo, Jr., one of his district superintendents, and Dr. Elinio Rivera, administrative pastor of Seed of Faith UMC, to facilitate the official Orientation Seminar-Workshops for "Downloading" of UMC DOC Model to the whole area connection. On May 15, 2014, Bishop Juan created a group [Dr. Benoni Silva-netto, Dr. Menre Mendillo, Dr. Rivera, DS Francis Fajardo, DS Roger Eballo, DS Manalo, Rev. Jose Padang, Rev. Julbert de Leon and Sis. Olive de Leon] to review and fine-tune the DOC Ministry.

UMC DOC Model was conceived primarily to respond to the global UMC Mission of "Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World". Secondly, to respond to the growing clamor of both UMC clergy and laity to develop with its own discipleship model that is parallel to the model used by most independent churches in the Philippines resulting in exponential growth of their churches. We indeed celebrate the growth the independent churches are experiencing because they

are able to win the lost and make them disciples; yet, some UMC church workers and lay leaders are saddened because some of the people being reached by independent churches are our own young people and other members of the UMC. Unfortunately, it turned out that these young people and a great number of UMC members who experienced the discipleship process offered by these independent Churches were so attracted that they turned away from their membership with the UMC. The primary reason was simply because they felt more loved and cared for through the “cell group ministry”; they also felt they had been adequately equipped by their cell leaders to be disciple-makers. This results in a great challenge for the UMC’s leadership of both the clergy and laity.

It says in The United Methodist Book of Discipline (2012) under Paragraph 218, Growth in Faithful Discipleship, Faithful membership in the local church is essential for personal growth and for developing deeper commitment to the will and grace of God. As members involve themselves in private and public prayer, worship, the sacraments, study, Christian action, systematic giving, and holy discipline, they grow in their appreciation of Christ, understanding of God at work in history and the natural order, and an understanding of themselves.

DOC Ministry is focusing on the small group ministry patterned after John Wesley’s bands and classes, wherein members of the group are accountable to one another; the goal is to make sure that Wesley’s “three simple rules” (do no harm; do good; and stay in love with God) are being lived by

each one in the class or band and lived in accordance to God's commandments – "to love God and to love our neighbors". This small group became a regular venue for the fellowship, sharing of God's words, and the caring and praying for each other's burdens that made classes and bands a place for growth and maturity as Christian believers. DOC ministry is about Christ's way of life, which he exemplified during his earthly ministry. Both UMC clergy and laity should bring back this spirit in the life of the UMC.

John Wesley demonstrated the "three simple rules" in his life and ministry that helped make Methodism a great and effective movement in the 18th century. Wesley's very mission was to accomplish the "Great Commission". He preached to the multitude, taught his disciples, and built a strong relationship with them through classes, bands, and societies just like Jesus did. In his earthly ministry, Jesus chose twelve men. He loved them, believed in them, and he developed character in them before sending them out to win the lost and make disciples of others. UMC DOC is based and founded on this very pattern.

# Disciples Of Christ (DOC) Ministry

---



## **Vision & Mission**

Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World  
(2012 Book of Discipline – Par. 120)

## **Purpose**

To Love God and to Love Our Neighbors  
(2012 Book of Discipline – Par. 121)

## **Goal**

To Make Every Believer (Methodists) a Disciple and  
Disciple-Maker of Christ Jesus  
(2012 Book of Discipline – Par. 124)

## Core Values

---

### L.E.A.D.E.R.

*(2012 Book of Discipline – Par. 123)*

**L**IVE with Jesus as Our Model

**E**NGAGE in Evangelism and Discipleship

**A**DVOCATE Transformation and Order

**D**EDICATE Our Lives in Fulfilling the Great Commission

**E**MPOWERED Through the Holy Spirit

**R**EVIVE, Revitalize, Renew

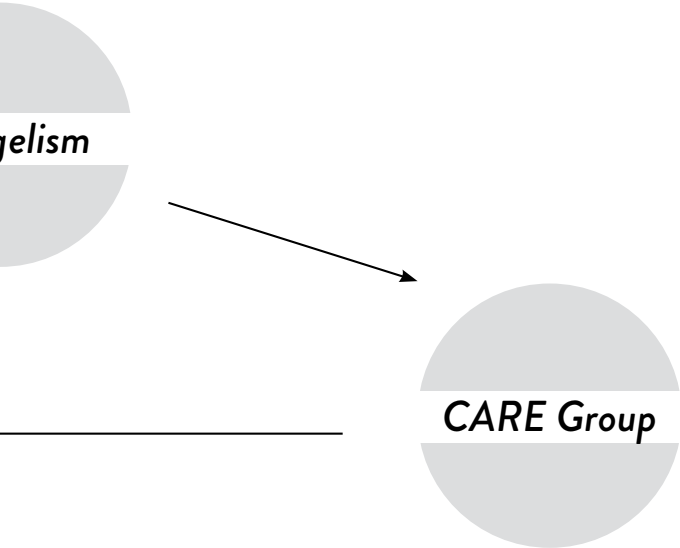
## Evangelism

Starts when someone is introduced to Christ; when that person accepts and receives Jesus Christ as Lord. (John 1:12; Romans 10:9-10)



## Discipleship

Starts when a new disciple of Christ goes through the process of training and equipping in preparation for being a disciple-maker. (2 Timothy 2:1-2)



## CARE Group

Starts when a new believer is being invited into a CARE Group. There she or he experiences being loved; his or her character being developed in Christlikeness; being equipped and empowered; and experiences fellowship with fellow disciples. (Acts 2:42-47)

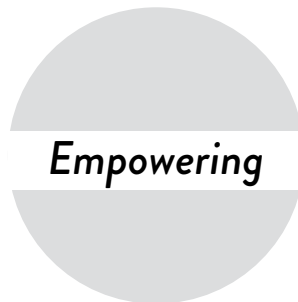
## Evangelizing

- P3\*
- One-on-One Evangelism
- Open House
- CARE Group
- Network Gathering
- Evangelistic Sunday Worship Service

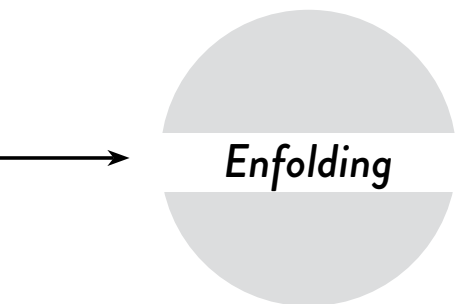


## Empowering

- Commissioning of New CARE Group Leader
- Accountable Discipleship Class Level 5 (Pastoral Ministry)
- Accountable Discipleship Class Level 6 (Ordained Ministry)

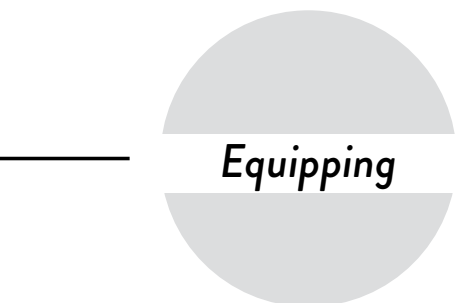






## **Enfolding**

- Enfolding Team/Director
- Weekly CARE Group Meeting Applying "5Gs"
- Daily Devotion With Journaling
- P1, P2 & P4 Prayer Patterns
- Pre-Experience Seminar
- 3-Day Experience Retreat
- Post-Experience Seminar/ ADC 1 (Membership Class)



## **Equipping**

- Accountable Discipleship Class Level 2 (Basic – Lay Servant Ministry Seminars)
- Accountable Discipleship Class Level 3 (Advance – Lay Servant Ministry Seminars)
- Accountable Discipleship Class Level 4 (Lay Speaking Seminar)

# THE BASIC PATTERNS THAT UMC DOC EMPHASIZES

## 1. Personal Daily Devotion with Journaling

A pattern called SLAP\* stands for Scripture, Lesson, Application, and Prayer; it becomes a personal daily habit that strengthens the believer's relationship with God. It also helps maintain healthy spirituality and strengthens one's testimony as a faithful disciple of Christ. Bible reading, meditation, and prayer should always be a part of a believer's daily living.

## 2. Weekly CARE Group Meetings

Every church worker is a disciple-maker and every church lay leader is a disciple. CARE Group is the consolidating arm of the local church that reaches out and empowers. Church leaders, the front-liners in every local congregation belong in the "Primary CARE Group" of the pastor. There should be a partnership between the administrative pastor and the council members; there should be unity and a harmonious relationship amongst them. Not only a "business" or "cordial" relationship but genuine love and CARE for one another. A Pattern, "5G Moments," is used as a guide to facilitate the CARE Group meeting. Five "Gs" stands for Gathering moment, Glorifying Moment, Growing Moment, Glowing Moment, and Going Moment. After the lay leaders go through the process of discipleship they will be encouraged to handle their own care groups as disciple-makers.

### **3. Monthly Network Gathering of CARE Groups**

A gathering intentionally designed to monitor the progress of the CARE Group Leaders and its members in the network. For example, after three months of regular meetings with the 10 to 12 members in his or her Primary CARE Group, the pastor hopes to hear that members are inviting or winning lost souls or preparing to lead their own Care Groups. There should be evangelism and discipleship moments happening in each weekly CARE Group meeting as they apply the pattern – “5G Moments”.

### **4. UMC Heartwarming Classes and Retreat**

These are designed for new believers in Christ. Pre-Experience Seminars prepare a person for a three-day Heartwarming Experience Retreat weekend. The three main goals in the Retreat are to experience “Freedom, Fire, and Focus.” Even the existing church members must go through the process and experience the benefits of the Experience to set an example for new believers and converts.

### **5. Accountable Discipleship Classes (ADC) and Re-Experience Retreat\***

The ADC is a six-level training experience designed to reinforce a person’s faith and life. Each level has 10 sessions, with two lessons per session.

#### **a. ADC 1**

Its purpose is to reaffirm the believers’ new life in Christ and to empower them with victory as new Christians.

When the new believers go through an Experience, their lives are drastically transformed. However, the environments they return to are still the same. They need tools that will help them to build a relationship with the Holy Spirit, overcome temptation, maintain their deliverance and continue to grow in Christ. ADC 1 gives them these tools and prepares them for leader training. This level is coupled with the UMC Membership Class.

#### **b. ADC 2**

ADC 2 through ADC 4 is designed to equip believers for the work of the ministry, to form every Christian into leaders who win souls and make disciples. Each level consists of classes : doctrine and seminar. In ADC 2 Doctrine, each participant will build a strong foundation for Christian leadership. In ADC 2 Seminar, each participant will study God's design for the family. At this level, each student must already have his or her Prayer of Three.

#### **c. ADC 3**

The Doctrine class will challenge and prepare participants to be active agents in the ministry as Care Group leaders. Participants will be instructed on the vision and strategy of local church ministry and receive the necessary tools to be effective ministers. At this level, participants are expected to start their own CARE groups. The Seminar class teaches the biblical principles of effective intercession, evangelism, and service to others.

#### **d. Re-Experience Retreat**

After the second level of ADC, there is another Experience

called the Re-Experience, where leaders are ministered to before entering the last level of the ADC.

**e. ADC 4**

The fourth level of ADC is dedicated to developing effective leadership that contributes to the strengthening of the ministry and the growth of the church. Its goal is to make “every member a winner” by developing Christ in him or her. Some of the topics covered in Doctrine include the personality of a leader, principles for excellent leadership, and types of leadership. Some of the topics covered in the Seminar include how to consolidate, the fruit of the Holy Spirit, the importance of counseling, and the practice of biblical counseling.

**f. ADC 5**

The fifth level of ADC provides extensive training for leaders on lay pastoral ministry.

**g. ADC 6**

This level of ADC is for those lay people exploring the possibility of entering into the ordained ministry. He or she will be introduced to the Ordained Ministry Candidate Handbook and have a mentor assigned to him or her.

**6. Membership Class (ADC 1) for New Believers and Old Members  
(as a refresher course)**

It is a Membership Class Seminar designed to prepare new believers to become professing members of the local congregation. Basic Christian (UMC) Doctrines, church

ministries, and mission are part of the curriculum for class studies and discussions. A seminar about ministry to the family is also included.

## **7. Lay Servant Ministry/Lay Speakers' Seminars (ADC 2-4)**

A three-fold seminar including the basic course about prayer intercession, evangelism, and discipleship. Next is an advanced course on leadership and God's call, gifts and fruit of the Holy Spirit, and preaching. Those who complete these courses will be certified as Lay Speakers in a local congregation.

---

These basic patterns are essential and should be evident in the life of every individual believer to foster maturity and growth. We desire every believer to have a healthy and transformed life. Church vitality is experienced in a healthy congregation where unity, love, caring, and discipleship are truly manifested.

UMC DOC Ministry is more than a church program; it is bringing back the very spirit of the early Christian believers into the life of this present and future generation of believers. We need the in-dwelling and in-filling presence of the Holy Spirit to become faithful witnesses as disciples of Christ.

## TWO ASPECTS OF THE EQUIPPING TRACK

LEADERS' PRE PARATION		ADC 1	ADC 2	ADC 3	RE- EXPERIENCE	ADC 4
PRE- EXPERIENCE	HEARTWARMING EXPERIENCE RETREAT	ADC 1	ADC 2	ADC 3	RE- EXPERIENCE	ADC 4
7 Lessons	3 Days	10 Sessions	10 Sessions	10 Sessions	2 Days	10 Sessions
Goals	Goals	Living A Victorious Christian Life	Foundation for Leadership	CARE Group Leaders Training	This prepare them to Minister through the Cells	Leadership Group Leaders Training
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verify</li> <li>• Build</li> <li>• Prepare</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire</li> <li>• Freedom</li> <li>• Focus</li> </ul>	REQUISITE Devotion w/ Journal	REQUISITE Prayer of Three	REQUISITE Starts a New CARE Group	REQUISITE Builds a Leadership Group	

# PROCESSES FOR THE MINISTRY

1. UMC DOC Downloading — Vision Casting
  
2. Administrative Pastor Challenges and Motivates Key Church Leaders to Start a Primary CARE Group
  - a. Daily devotion with journaling of CARE Group member applying SLAP
  - b. Weekly CARE Group Meeting applying the 5G Moments
  - c. Implement DOC Prayer Patterns
    - i. P1 – MEA Wide Intercessory prayer – Covenant 96.com
    - ii. P2 – Prayer of 2 – Silent prayer (one on one)
    - iii. P3 – Prayer of 3\* – 30 days of prayer for 3 Persons to receive salvation and wholeness
    - iv. P4 – Prayer and fasting one meal on Wednesdays and Fridays – to support the Church ministries as a whole.
    - v. P5 – Quarterly prayer vigil for the ministry and mission of the Church, individual families and to our nation and beyond
  
3. Monthly/Bi-Monthly DOC Network Gathering
  - a. Coaching — Instruction and inspiration on how to multiply CARE Groups
  - b. Goal-Setting — Evangelistic strategies to be implemented
  - c. Open House — After the launching of P3, the network will schedule an evangelism service



- d. Network Conferences for prayers and special issues that needs to be addressed
  - e. Baptism of new converts
  - f. Re-Affirmation of baptism for members (optional)
4. Implementation of Pre-Experience, 3-Day Heartwarming Experience Retreat, and Post-Experience
  5. Accountable Discipleship Class Level 1 - Membership Class for New Believers
  6. Accountable Discipleship Class Level 2 (Basic – Lay Servant Ministry Seminars)
  7. Accountable Discipleship Class Level 3 (Advance – Lay Servant Ministry Seminars)
  8. Accountable Discipleship Class Level 4 (Lay Speaking Seminar)
  9. Accountable Discipleship Class Level 5 (Pastoral Ministry)
  10. Accountable Discipleship Class Level 6 (Ordained Ministry)
  11. New CARE Group Leaders Commissioned to start new CARE Groups
  12. Start a New Cycle of DOC Ministry

# CARE GROUP MINISTRY

Each local church headed by the pastor is encouraged/expected to establish a "CARE Group Ministry." This is one of the ministries Bishop Rudy Juan expects all pastors to establish in their local churches. This was mentioned in the Episcopal Address of 2013 under the UMC DOC Discipleship System and Strategy that Bishop Juan adapted for the Manila Episcopal Area.

## What is a CARE Group?

A CARE Group is a small group ministry patterned after the ministry of John Wesley. Like the bands, classes, and societies of John Wesley's time, they meet once a week at a designated place, day, and hour for fellowship, sharing God's word, prayer, and to help one another, especially if someone is in need.

The basic component of effective discipleship depends upon the degree of relationship between the mentor and his or her apprentice, the disciple-maker-disciple relationship. In the UMC DOC the CARE Group should be headed by a leader equipped to handle such ministry. A special seminar-workshop and continued coaching is required to effectively carry on this ministry.

CARE Groups function to help local churches in "Consolidating Arms to Reach-out and Empower (CARE)"

# How to Start a CARE Group Ministry

1. Pray for all the members of your congregation, especially church officers or key leaders.
2. Select and pray for potential key leaders who could lead people. (As you look for leaders, remember STAFF: Submissive, Teachable, Available, Faithful & Fruitful)
3. Invite your STAFF for a fellowship dinner and prayer.
  - a. Share the vision for the church.
  - b. Encourage them to be part of the “Primary CARE Group”.
  - c. Schedule weekly CARE Group meetings.
4. Begin weekly CARE Group meetings. Start and finish on time.  
Minimum time—one hour; maximum—one and a half hours.

## CARE Group Leader’s (Administrative Pastor) Initiative and Operating Mechanism Initiative

- Commit to daily devotion with journaling and memorizing key passages.
- Invest in your CARE Group by texting passages for their daily devotions.
- Invest time by visiting and praying for individual members of the group.
- Remind the group about scheduled meetings through texting.

- Encourage each member of the group to share the most meaningful and striking message they received in their daily devotion and to recite at least two passages they have memorized during the week in your CARE Group meeting.
- Inform, prepare, and motivate CARE Group members to attend the monthly Network meeting and Coaching as scheduled in the District Calendar.

## OPERATING MECHANISM

### **Identify**

-- the person God is putting into your heart who needs salvation, healing, and God's abundant blessings. Include in your prayer of three (P3) list.

### **Intercede**

-- list the names of all persons you know of who need prayer for salvation, healing and God's blessings. Choose at least two prayer partners to also pray for them every day. Meet with your prayer partner at least once a week to conduct the P3 (Prayer 3 Pattern). Note: Ideally, prayer partners should be part of your CARE Group.

### **Invest**

-- start by visiting, texting or calling the person(s) on your prayer list to show your love and concern. Make every effort to establish a pleasant relationship. When rapport is established, share your personal testimony about your life and how God blesses you and your family.

## **Invite**

-- the person(s) for a dinner in your home or in any place that is agreeable to the person. Be humble and sincere as you communicate your intention by inviting the person to consider attending your CARE Group.

## **Impart**

-- "LOVE" (Launching of One Verse Evangelism or any "gospel-sharing" tool you are familiar with) to the person when the right opportunity presents itself. Always seek God's guidance and wisdom.

## **Inspire**

-- the person by your words and deeds. Make your life a living example of a faithful believer of Christ. Model the values and patterns of life that are worth emulating. Motivate the person to attend regularly your CARE Group meetings and Sunday worship services.

## **Instruct**

-- the person about the necessary values and pattern of life of a faithful disciple of Christ. Be sincere, humble, and straightforward in order to give correction, commendation, and affirmation in the proper time and context.

## **Involve**

-- your disciple in the process of equipping and coaching. Make every opportunity to help and motivate the person to take the LEAD (see Core Values).

## Gathering Moment

This is the time to formally start the CG meeting. It is suggested that the seating arrangement of the group be a circle. Each one in the group is asked by the CG Leader to express his/her feeling at the moment when he/she arrives at the meeting. Each member is encouraged to express it in one or two sentences only. This is a brief statement of one's feeling so that the CG Leader and each member of the group will be given a hint of each one's emotional condition as he/she enters into a fellowship with one another. This exercise is essential for the CG Leader to become aware of who among the CG members need extra CARE for prayer and ministering. It is important that the leader uses a notebook to record important matters concerning the group and to keep track of what has transpired in every meeting.

## Glorifying Moment

An opening prayer starts the time of worship. The CG Leader or an assigned worship leader will be in charge of group singing; one or two songs/hymns is sufficient. Then the leader encourages one group member to share a testimony of an answered prayer that the group had prayed for in their last CG meeting or any meaningful experience from the past week that would give honor to God.

## Growing Moment

The CG Leader prays or asks any member in the group to pray for the time of sharing God's Word. The leader will ask each member to share the most meaningful and striking biblical passage

## E GROUP MEETINGS

they encountered during his or her personal daily devotion and the important lesson and the outcome of their personal application of that passage. Another source of group sharing is the pastor's Sunday message (if all CG members are already attending Sunday worship service this will be applicable).

### Glowing Moment

This is the time for the CG members to pray and to minister to one another. The essence of a CARE Group should manifest and be experienced by each member in this part of the meeting. The focus of the group is to pray and make a concrete decision to meet the need of any member who is struggling or being challenged. This could also be the time to launch One-Verse Evangelism\* to one or more newly invited or attendee in your CARE Group that is ready to receive the Good News of God's salvation. The group may also extend its support as a group to a specific need or ministry in the total life of the local church. P4 - Prayer Pattern (Prayer & Fasting) could be implemented as the group decides.

### Going Moment

Everyone in the CG is expected to be faithful in their daily devotions—in prayer, in advocating transformation and order, in sharing personal testimonies of God's greatness and goodness to their families, friends and acquaintances, in inviting people to his/her CARE Group meeting, and in sharing Christ to make Him known and accepted as Lord of their lives.

# GUIDELINES IN DOING PE

(1) It must be “personal”. Using devotional materials like *Upper Room* and *Upper Room Disciplines* are highly recommended. Persons are encouraged before reading such devotional materials to first make personal reflection by using the pattern “S.L.A.P\*”.

## SCRIPTURE

- Read the assigned devotional reading or passages for the day.
- Choose one striking verse to use as daily devotional passage.
- Write the book, chapter, verse, along with the whole passage in a journal.
- Meditate on that particular verse to identify a personal lesson.

## LESSONS

- Is there a command that you have to obey?
- Is there a promise that you have to claim?
- Is there any warning that you have to avoid?
- Is there an example that you have to follow?

Template: “In this passage the Lord is telling/asking/teaching me to obey/claim/avoid/follow or to (do a particular action).” Lesson should be written in a personal note. Subjective interpretation is not prevented to happen. Those who are not knowledgeable in hermeneutics and exegesis are given liberty to just receive lesson based on their subjective feeling as they believe that God is telling or revealing them something as they read and meditate on His Word.

- Write lesson/s revealed to you in your journal.



# PERSONAL DAILY DEVOTION

## A APPLICATION

- Write in your journal a particular personal action that you have to do to apply your lesson.
- It is encouraged that application must be "SMART": Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and time bounded.
- We believe that every time we seek God's will and purpose in our lives, He will surely reveal it to us, if we ask Him. Devotional guides can do the same but in this devotional pattern SLAP, we are encouraged to read the passage and apply the SLAP before reading any devotional materials.

## P PRAYER

- Pray that God will guide and give you wisdom as you apply what you learned.
- Pray for God to reveal more of God's self as you obey God's Word or message to you.

(2) It is encouraged that you do your personal devotion daily. You can do your systematic reading of Scripture by using the passages suggested in the Upper Room Disciplines before bedtime. Then choose a striking passage from your readings to meditate on as your devotional reading to start the next day.

(3) Using a personal journal is encouraged for writing and recording your faith journey as God reveals Himself to you through your daily personal devotion. Journaling is essential in applying the SLAP Pattern for use in our CARE Group meetings and when teaching and encouraging persons to use this devotional pattern. You can encourage others because you are doing it also. We call that modeling.

A Network Gathering is a gathering of CARE Groups within the structure of a UMC connection (a local church, district(s), annual conference(s), an episcopal area(s), or the whole jurisdiction or central conference) that meets monthly, quarterly, or annually dependent on the degree of need for coaching, or if there is new information to distribute or project that a network needs to accomplish for a period of time. The primary purpose of Network Gathering is to strengthen, empower, and give essential instruction for the CARE Group leaders and members of every local church within the connection.

## **BASIC GOALS FOR NETWORK MEETINGS**

### **N**EW PROSPECT

New prospect is invited to attend weekly CARE Group meetings, weekend worship celebrations, and monthly UMC DOC Network Gatherings.

### **E**VANGELISM

Evangelism should always be the goal for every person in whom the Gospel is not yet shared. Every opportunity is important for the CG Leader or any CG member to L.O.V.E. (Launch One Verse Evangelism) to new prospects, helping them realize that they are V.I.P. (A person who needs to have a Vision, Integrity, and Progress in life). This can be done at the CG Meetings, after Sunday worship celebrations, in Network Gatherings, or whenever the right time or opportunity arises.

### **T**RAINING

Training will be part of the process in which the new believer is encouraged to undergo and commit himself to nurture growth in his relationship with God; to receive guidance and motivation in the transformation process of one's character, value system, and lifestyle.

# NETWORK GATHERING / CONFERENCE

## WORKSHOP

Workshop is conducted to give every CG leader and member the opportunity to assimilate new teaching that is downloaded in the Network Gathering.

## ORGANIZATION

Organization will always be evaluated and monitored to assure the progress of every CG leaders and their CG ministry within the entire Network. Advance Coaching shall be applied to ensure that the ministry is properly implemented by the CG leader.

## RETREAT

Retreat will be another venue offering deeper development where participants are secluded for several days. Aside from the Heartwarming Experience Retreat there will be special Retreats conducted for various courses like: Courses for Downloading, Coaching, Membership Class, ADC 1-4 Implementation, or a special course designed for a particular subject that needs immediate attention.

## KEY LEADERS

Key Leaders are expected to participate in regular coaching events within the Network or Connection. The purpose is to inspire, instruct, and involve CG leaders for effective CG coaching and leadership formation. It is expected that the leader shall always take the LEAD. (See Core Values)



**UMC DOC**

United Methodist Church  
Disciples Of Christ