

# Focus Group Host Expectations

## **Mission Statement**

We aim to see every person in Focus Church regularly engaged in discipleship and studying the Bible.

## **Vision**

At Focus Church, our desire is that Focus Groups will be the main vessel for discipleship. While it will involve regular Bible study, we envision it also creating a place for community in our church beyond Sunday mornings. This means that each week, Focus Groups will meet in people's homes to enjoy food, fellowship, and Bible study. Through the relationships that are grown in this context, we would be able to start to engage people in 1-on-1 discipleship meetings to provide mentorship and depth into people's walk with the Lord. From these people we disciple, future Focus Group leaders can be raised up, modeled after the teachings of 2 Timothy 2:2, where Paul teaches multi-generational discipleship. (*"And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also."*)

## **Expectations**

**Meetings:** Focus Group Hosts will have regular gatherings in their home (or somebody's home or in Focus Church if necessary) that will include a hospitality element (e.g. a meal, snacks, drinks), prayer, reading of the Bible, and discussion. The Host is in charge of making sure all the details for each meeting is in place and communicated to their group. These meetings can be from 1-2 hours long. Group sizes can range from 4-12 participants. When a group exceeds this size, leadership will begin to prepare the group for multiplication.

**Discussions:** Your responsibility as a Focus Group Host is not to teach and instruct, but simply to facilitate a discussion with your members. We want Focus Groups to be a place for someone who attends Focus Church regularly, but also a coworker who has never read the Bible before. Your Discipleship Pastor can provide resources on leading discussions.

**Building your Focus Group:** It is expected that each Focus Group Host would take ownership of their own Focus Group, seeking to grow it as a response to the Great Commission (Matt. 28:18-20) and looking to make disciples of all nations in Estonia. If you know someone at Focus Church without a Focus Group they attend, seek to invite them to yours or to one near them.

**Discipleship:** The goal of Focus Groups is to see each person disciplined in the Way of Jesus. When we look to how Jesus did this, it went beyond weekly meetings, but living life with His closest friends. We expect each Focus Group Host to be meeting with at least one person over coffee or a meal to lead them into a deeper relationship with our Lord. This should be around 2 times per month.

**Resource Groups:** Once a month, Focus Group Hosts will meet with a small group of other Focus Group Hosts and their Resource Group Leader to pray for one another, encourage one another, and to share any difficulties they are facing in their group.

**Equipping:** Once a quarter, we will have a workshop on Spiritual Formation and regular practices of opening ourselves up to the Grace of God to work in our lives. These workshops will be open to the whole church, but will be **required** for all Focus Group Hosts.

**Communication:** Communication is vital to every good team. Focus Group Hosts should be checking your Teams channels regularly and responding to any messages pertaining to them within 24 hours. If you have a question or concern, please reach out to the Discipleship Pastor or your Resource Leader on Teams or in person.

**Be a team player:** Focus Groups are all on the same team, and there is no need for competitiveness between groups. In the Kingdom of God, we are never to ask for “more for me” with a “less for them.” We can’t seek to have our group grow at the expense of another group. Work with your fellow leaders to help people at Focus Church to find a group that is good for them.

**Character and Behavior:** Focus Groups should be a safe space for everyone from any walk of life to come and be a part of. Understanding this, we would ask all leaders to enforce no alcohol or smoking during the Focus Group meeting time, and to create a culture of honor and respect towards every person in and out of their group.

If you have read the above MOU and agree to the vision and expectations of Focus Group Hosting, please sign and date below, and return this form to the Discipleship Pastor.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Discipleship Pastor Contact:

Micah Smiley

Micah.smiley@focuschurch.ee

+372 53563083