

2024 Yale Church Cell Group Guidelines

1. What is a Cell Group?

- 1) It is a small church-like gathering that meets in small groups at home in response to the congregational gathering at church. (Acts 2:41-47).
- 2) A bird must have two wings to fly. A church can thrive only when there is a balance between church gatherings and home gatherings.

2. Five Key Elements of Cell Group (Five Fingers)

1) Community	The thumb says the most important thing. A cell group is a community gathered in the name of the Lord (Matthew 18:20). Be a Jesus-centered not a self-centered community. The salvation of the members and their spiritual growth are the core of the cell group.
2) Evangelism	The index finger is the direction. The cell group is a place to experience and share God's grace. And it is a bridgehead for relational evangelism that leads lost souls to Jesus through the grace we received. Just as healthy cells in the body proliferate, a small group that grows and produces new cell groups through evangelism is a healthy cell group. (Acts 2:47; Ephesians 4:11-12; Matthew 28:19-20).
3) Leadership	The middle finger represents the leader of the cell group. The vitality of a cell group is closely related to the spirituality of the leader. A leader is a person who strives to be a good shepherd who follows the example of Jesus (John 10:11-12). A leader should not try to be a teacher, but rather be a spiritual father and strive to nurture souls by caring for them with love (1 Corinthians 4:15). And the leader prepares to produce new cell group by training prospective leaders within the cell group.
4) Accountability	The ring finger is a promise to the other person, like a wedding ring. We serve one another in love, bear each other's burdens, and fulfill the law of Christ in the cell group. (Galatians 6:2). Bible reading and intercessory prayers are encouraged in the cell group. The way to save others is the way to live.
5) Equipping	The little finger symbolizes nurturing a new family or beginners in the cell group.

3. 4W's for making a friendly Cell Group

1) Welcome	Work on bringing your hearts together by sharing a simple meal or snack. Sharing a story of thanksgiving is recommended.
2) Worship	Whoever has the gift of praise prepare few hymns or gospel songs. Select a heart opening song that all members can sing.
3) Word	Share how you applied the Words proclaimed through last Sunday's service in your life. The important thing to note: Do not preach again the sermon but focus on sharing the grace you have received.
4) Work	A prayer of thanksgiving for the grace given through the cell group meeting. 'Dajise (Intercessory) Prayer' - A prayer to care for and build up each other. Prayer for those to receive Christ - Joint operation to save the non-believers.

4. How to lead grace-filled cell group meeting

- 1) Thoroughly prepare for the cell group meeting. Only then will it become a meeting filled with grace and inspiration rather than a formal meeting.
- 2) Contact members by phone or text frequently before the cell group meeting so that they can participate with an open heart.
- 3) Complaints or stories that may become controversial at a cell group meeting must be wisely ignored. This always leaves a wound, causes enormous damage to the spread of the Gospel, and destroys motivation to attend the next cell group meeting.
- 4) The basic direction of the cell group is the growth of the member's faith and reproduction of the cell group by evangelizing non-believers.
- 5) After the cell group meeting, the leader writes a cell group report and delivers it to your cell group's pastor and elder. The pastor in charge organizes them and reports them to the senior pastor. Ultimately, the leader acts as the eyes and ears of the senior pastor / Co-pastor.

1. Welcome

2. Worship

Apostle’s Creed

Praise

Prayer

3. Word

Sharing the application of the Sermon heard last Sunday.

4. Work

Pray Together

- 1) Prayer of thanksgiving for the grace from the Word of God
- 2) ‘DaJiSe’ Prayer to care for and build up others.
- 3) Bible Reading, 153 Prayer, 40 Church Prayers, and Prayer for those to receive Christ

Offering

Announcement

The Lord’s Prayer

***Word - Under New Management (Exodus 12:1-17)**

We must have Jesus as our Savior to receive salvation.

But we also must have Jesus as our Lord to live a life of sanctification. We often think about Savior a lot, but we forget that He becomes our Lord. This is called “Lordship” If we accept Jesus as our Savior, then we must live a Jesus-centered or Gospel-centered life.

Exodus 12 teaches us how the saved people should live the faith of Lordship.

1. We must put off our old selves.

Verse 2 – “This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you.”

God commands that the month that they escaped from Egypt should be the first month of the year.

John Calvin, the father of reformed theology said, “This is talking about a new birth, a new life after meeting Jesus Christ.”

Just as we distinguish the history into B.C. and A.D, we must have a clear distinction between B.C. and A.D. in our lives.

If there's no clear distinction between B.C. and A.D. in our lives,

We will never be able to put off our old selves.

If there's a clear distinction, we can live a totally different life.

Salvation doesn't only mean to be moved from hell to heaven, but salvation means to put off our old selves and live with new identity, new values, new purpose, new habits, new hearts, and have a have a clear distinction between B.C. and A.D in our lives.

2. We must go under new management.

Verse 7 – “Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.”

- a) Putting blood - pray and repent for the sins daily and stay holy by relying on the blood of Jesus Christ.

Verse 8 – “They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it.”

- a) Eat the flesh – Taking Jesus Christ as the bread of life. Reading and studying the Word of God.
- b) Eat unleavened bread – Removing sins and living a new life.
- c) Eat bitter herbs – Remembering how God saved them from sufferings.

Verse 9 – “Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts.”

- a) Do not eat any of it raw – believing Jesus Christ without His sufferings.
- b) Do not boiled in water – Don't mix other beliefs into the belief of Jesus Christ. Do not add any other additives other than Jesus Christ in our lives.

Living a holy life is hard. But such life is possible when you look to Jesus. Living a holy life is to always remember the blood of Jesus Christ that made us holy, receive the word of God, repent for our sins, reject the temptations, and fight the spiritual battles every day to keep yourself holy.

It is to go under new management. Be managed by the Word of God.

Be owned by the owner of our lives, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

3. We must pursue a new life.

When we receive the salvation, we are no longer a slave, we are no longer a normal people, but God's army and a priest. We must live with these new identities and live a life accordingly.

Verse 11- "In this manner you shall eat it; with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the Lord's Passover."

This means to immediately start living a new life as soon as we accept Jesus Christ. Be ready to fight the spiritual battles as God's army. The real fight is not within the church and within the community. It is against Satan who tries to collapse our church, who tries to constantly make us fall, who tries to make us distance from God.

Exodus 19:6 – "And you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel."

- a) Kingdom of priests - This means to serve, help, and raise others. Speak to people about God. Proclaim the good news.

When we receive the salvation, we are no longer a slave, we are no longer a normal people, but God's army and a priest. We must live with these new identities and live a life accordingly.

[Conclusion]

Let us put off our old selves, go under new management, and pursue a new life in Jesus Christ. Let's not only look after the earthly things but look after the heavenly things. Remember the grace and love we received from God through Jesus Christ. Gather as one body and be united with one heart for His kingdom and for His glory.

[Sharing]

1. What word did I need to hear the most in today's sermon?
2. Do you have a clear distinction between B.C. and A.D. in your life?