



## Small Group Agreement

We are ECSTATIC that you are interested in Grace Students Small Groups. We believe that God has some BIG things in store for everyone who has decided to sign up for small groups this year, so thank you for being willing to share life together with us. Nevertheless, before we go any further, we want you to know what you are saying yes to when you sign up for a small group.

- **YES to...asking questions and learning with others.**

We realize that none of us has all the answers, but together we will listen and respect what the other people in small group have to say. Conversations only happen when people talk and share thoughts and ideas with one another. The leaders have some great stuff to share and so do you! In small groups, we expect everyone to be fully present and listen when we are together, valuing each other and respecting one another, even if you might disagree at times.

- **YES to... experiencing outreach nights with your group.**

We love to try new things in Small Group, and we like to try them together. Outreach experiences may be new for you, and that's a good thing. These are times for your group to come together and build relationships together by hanging out and serving together in the church or community. God loves it when we are out of our comfort zones because it's a chance to break new ground together and grow together.

- **YES to...deepening friendships and creating new ones.**

We are better together and there is strength in numbers. We want you to have each other's back. Sometimes students in your group will share parts of their life that are sensitive or extremely private. It may surprise you, it may confuse you, but we expect you to accept each other just as Jesus accepts us, exactly as we are. There is nothing like a group full of people with hearts open to learning, loving, and growing together. Sometimes conflict may arise, as we are all human and make mistakes. Let's just remember to own up if you make a mistake and learn how to be quick to forgive if you've been offended. Remember, growth takes place in the uncomfortable moments. We also love whenever you invite your friends to be part of your group!

- **YES to...being the real you at all times.**

It can be easy to fake our way through life at times...we act one way at church, one way at school, and one way at home. Our hope is that Small Group is a safe place so that you can be the real you, because YOU are awesome. There is nothing you can do for Jesus to love you less, and your Small Group leaders are there because they care about you. Be you! If your life is messy, if life is hard, we want you to feel comfortable to share about what is going on. Life is not perfect for anyone! Just remember that what is said in small group stays in the small group. No gossip! No sharing with people outside of your group!

- **YES to...participating in Grace Students Ministries.**

We know life gets busy and we can't always predict what each week will look like; however, we would love for you to join us for Grace Students Ministries whenever possible. We have large group and small groups on Tuesday nights from 6:30-8:30 PM, as a time for every student to come and enjoy fun events and activities together, and learn more about God and life!

- **YES to... supporting the mission and direction of Grace Church.**

We believe that Grace Church is a place that provides hope for everyone and a home for anyone. We are committed to reaching the world with the clear Gospel of Jesus. God made the ultimate sacrifice for us and showed His great love for us when He sent His only son, Jesus, to die for all of our sins. Three days later, He rose again proving He is our Savior. He loves us so much that all we have to do is believe He did this for us and that we are in need of a Savior, and we are guaranteed to go to Heaven. There is nothing more important in the whole world!

**How to Join a Small Group:**

1. Read over the agreement.
2. Sign-up online:
  - a. Go to [www.grace-alone.org](http://www.grace-alone.org)
  - b. Click on "Families" tab.
  - c. Click on "Grace Students" tab.
  - d. On the bottom of the page, click on "Grace Students Small Groups" box.
3. If you have any questions, you can email our Pastor of Family Ministries/Family Ministries Small Groups Director, Brooklyn Long, at [brooklynlong@grace-alone.org](mailto:brooklynlong@grace-alone.org).