



SMALL GROUP UNIVERSITY

*“To equip the best trained
small group leadership teams
in the world.”*

Courses



SADDLEBACK CHURCH

Required courses:

1. CL Dimensions – This course teaches the basics for people entering the ministry leadership team, with practical exercises and role-playing.

Covered: Small group mission and vision, orientation to Staffnet and Group Manager, managing group details, techniques for important communications with hosts, getting interested people connected to healthy small groups.

This is the classroom accompaniment to the CL QuickStart.

Using Group Manager to manage groups

Using Staffnet to help manage group information (not basic Staffnet class)

Role playing - First call to a new group

Calls to non-responsive hosts

Calls to interested people and their prospective hosts

Calls to non-staff verified hosts

How to populate rosters

Confirming the accuracy of group information

4Ps – managing your time while managing your groups

People/Communication/phone/Skills

Encouragement

Community building – huddles, coffees, LT2, etc.

2. Purpose Driven Small Groups – This course teaches our approach to small groups so you can follow it and teach it. Frequency taught: 2x a year, one of which is the Purpose Driven Small Groups Conference.

3. Purpose Driven Church (short-form). This is the paradigm on which the church is built. This is the intentional strategy of helping people live out the Great Commission and the Great Commandment. Frequency taught: 2x a year, one of which is the Purpose Driven Church Conference on campus.

4. LT2 Health – This course teaches the main assessment instrument to gauge health in personal spiritual life and in group life. LT2 Health is also central to helping small group hosts identify and take their next spiritual step. Frequency: CLs can either teach this LT2 module 2x a year or take LT2 once a year when another CL teaches it.

Electives:

Spiritual leadership

1. **Experiencing God** – this is an excellent course for knowing and understanding God’s call in your life. This course is taught: 2x a year.
2. (In myself) **Devotion** – developing a desire-led quiet time. This course helps you unlock the barriers to having a daily quiet time and also provides easy but powerful tools to study God’s word. Frequency taught: 4x a year.
3. (In others) **Discipleship**. This is taught, not by technique, but by actually being discipled so you can then disciple others. The purpose of this is to equip you for working with your ACLs and potential leaders to disciple them into a closer walk with Christ. These discipleship groups are launched 2x a year and are leveraged from the Women’s and Men’s discipleship programs.

Functional leadership

1. (One-on-one) **Spiritual partnering**. The techniques of being a good spiritual partner are taught in this class. You will use this as you become a spiritual partner to individual ACLs and potential leaders to help them grow in their leadership abilities. Frequency taught: 2x a year. This is leveraged from the Women’s mentoring program. Workplace groups also have info on this.
2. **Lead Like Jesus**. Jesus is the model that we follow in any leadership role. This course helps teach that servant leaders come from the heart of Christ. Frequency taught: 2x a year. Leveraged: Existing materials
3. **Ministerial functions**. Continue your development as a CL so that you can perform many of the ministerial duties needed by small groups. Frequency taught: 2x a year.
 - Baptism
 - Child dedication
 - Communion
 - Weddings – attached to a mentor
 - Funerals – attached to a mentor
4. **Resources of the church**. In this course you will learn about the many resources of the church, how to identify the proper resource to apply to each situation, and how to access that resources. This is one of the basic care pieces and benefit values of a CL or ACL to a small group host. Frequency taught: 4x a year.

5. **Crisis and counseling.** This course teaches what to do and how to counsel the host when there's a problem in one of your groups. Frequency taught: 4x a year.

6. **Curriculum.** What we currently have and what is also available. Also, how to evaluate curriculum or get it evaluated prior to recommending it to groups. Reason: this is one of the basic care pieces and benefit values of a CL or ACL to a small group host. Frequency taught: 4x a year.

7. **Conflict Coaching.** This course teaches how to coach resolution of conflicts using the principles of Matthew 18. It is taught by Dave Greene and Ed Russey, who are part of our Peacemakers ministry.

Form of courses:

2007: taught centralized (on-campus), or in a few limited cases using ALs teaching CLs and ACLs using provided resources (LT2 Health, etc.).

2008: decentralized, using online learning that is interactive to ensure that the student learns.