

CASE STUDY 3: Helping Groups to Grow

As you talk to the group leaders in the church they all seem to have a different view on what their role is and why they are doing groups in the first place. The one answer they all agree on and mention in one way or another is that groups are about caring for people and making their church feel small. When you probe deeper into how they know their group is healthy you get a range of answers from “because everyone cares for each other” to “because we do a book of the Bible study every week and the whole group actually does their weekly homework and shows up on time.” When you ask the Pastor of Small Groups what he would determine to be a healthy small group he shares that his primary concern is that the group stays together and reports their attendance, prayer requests, and what they are studying. He feels if people are connected and committed to the group growth will happen naturally.

1. Based on what you know about small group health, how healthy would you say the churches groups are? How would you know?
2. What do you think of the Small Group Pastor’s view of a healthy group?
3. What would you do to help the groups in this church to have a vision for spiritual health? What would you recommend the church do to put that in place? What are the first steps?