

## **Learning Group Guidelines (Group Members)**

1. **These groups are confidential.** What is said in the group stays in the group. Confidentiality is important because it helps people to feel safe in sharing and asking questions.
2. **Assume the best about one another.** We will make mistakes, phrase things in the wrong way, and ask questions that might show areas where we need growth. That's okay! We are all learning together. When we don't understand or don't agree, let's assume the best about the other person and ask clarifying questions.
3. **Take a posture of curiosity, kindness, gentleness, humility and grace.** We know that these discussions can sometimes feel tense, awkward, or confusing. That's normal! Let's persevere and remember that we're all learning together.
4. **Be sensitive when talking about denominations, political leanings, etc. that are different from your own.** In these groups, we likely will be coming from a variety of perspectives. We will likely have different political leanings, policy ideas, life experiences, etc. We want to make sure the conversation stays respectful and curious.
5. **Be reflective: take time to process on your own after each week's discussion.** There will be times when we talk about things that feel awkward or difficult. These are the places where God might want to grow you, so press into them! Reflect on why you felt awkward, why something was hard to talk about, or why something that someone said make you bristle or feel uncomfortable. Rather than running from these moments or shutting down, take them to the Lord to see if that area of discomfort is actually God wanting to do something in you or grow you in some way.