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# Moms' Ministry Small Group Guidelines

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## *We Agree to the Following Values*

<b>Clear Purpose</b>	Provide a safe and healthy small group community where women can grow in their relationship with Jesus, and their relationships with each other.
<b>Group Attendance</b>	Commit to consistent attendance, while also understanding each others' absences and tardies.
<b>Safe Environment</b>	Create a safe place where everyone can be heard and loved without snap judgments, easy answers or quick fixes.
<b>Confidentiality</b>	Keep anything that is shared strictly confidential and within the group.
<b>Conflict Resolution</b>	Avoid gossip; directly address the person at issue, as quickly as possible.
<b>Spiritual Health</b>	Speak into and help each other live a healthy, spirit-filled life that is pleasing to God.
<b>Virtues &amp; Attitudes</b>	Keep an open mind and heart; be loving, kind, accepting, humble, authentic.
<b>Build Relationships</b>	Get to know other members of the group and pray for them.

The path toward Christlikeness is a lifelong journey. Please pray that as we share, we will enrich, balance and challenge each other. We desire that Moms' Ministry be a space where we can know and be known, by God and by others. Our hope is that we may grow deeper in our relationship with God and experience the love and grace of God through each other.

### Group Guidelines

1. **Everything shared in the group MUST be kept confidential.** This is crucial for creating a safe group environment.
2. **Use "I" statements when you share.** Focus your sharing on what you are learning about yourself.
3. **Allow others to freely express their thoughts and emotions.** Both laughter and tears are welcome at our tables, small and large. No apologies necessary for tears.
4. **Keep your sharing brief and to the point so everyone has a chance to speak.**
5. **Do not give advice to other group members.**
6. **Do not criticize members of the group.**
7. **Do not defend or rescue members of the group.** Often this is done with good intentions but is counterproductive to discovery and growth.
8. **Listen attentively** to the person sharing without interrupting.
9. **Avoid crosstalk.** When two people in a group engage in conversation that does not include others in the group, this disrupts the flow of sharing and often creates a feeling of "cliquishness" within the group.