

## **Get Connected**

### **Crosspointe Connection Team**

I am excited about the incredible potential of the network of Connection Groups we are building with Crosspointe Church. These small groups offer benefits that no believer can afford to pass up. If you are not a part of a connection team yet, let us help you get into a group now!

Pastor Everett

### **Crosspointe Church Mission Statement**

The purpose of Crosspointe Church is for the *Celebration* of the greatness of God and His love through worship and fellowship, the *Conversion* of men, women, teens and children to salvation through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, to their *Consecration* by water baptism according to Scripture, and to their *Conformation* to the likeness of Christ in maturity and ministry as set forth in the Bible.

### **What Are Connection Teams?**

Connection teams are small groups of five to six couples or six to eight individuals who meet in someone's home weekly for fellowship, Bible study, prayer and accountability. Your team will meet weekly

throughout the year with occasional breaks for holidays or summer vacations. Your weekly meeting will follow a schedule because we know everyone's time is valuable. The meetings usually last about two hours, which includes fellowship time (eating or just chatting), prayer time and Bible study time.

The meetings are very informal; and, unlike a Sunday School class, they offer plenty of opportunities for questions and sharing of ideas. No matter how much you know about the Bible, you will never feel intimidated in a connection team setting, because every member is there to learn and grow together with friends.

Our desire is to see every member and attendee of Crosspointe experience the fun, the joy, and the comfort of being a part of a team. When you are a part of a Connection Team, you will be able to say, "These are the people I am doing life with!"

### **What is the Purpose of a Connection Team?**

Crosspointe connection teams help us to fulfill the "conformation" part of our Church purpose. We believe that a small group meeting in a living room environment is the best atmosphere for everyone to enjoy a growing and sustained relationship with Jesus Christ and other believers. In connection teams, people study God's Word together and discuss the issues and challenges of life in a safe environment. It is a place where members pray for each other, care for each other, and stay "connected" with each other by letting

absentees know they were missed. The connection teams make it possible for Crosspointe to "Grow Smaller" as we "Grow Larger".

Most people who have been a part of a Connection group say that one of the greatest benefits they received is the close relationships and friendships that they developed. These friendships will last for a lifetime and prove to be a great source of strength and blessing to everyone in your team.

Prayer is also a big part of a Connection team. It is a real privilege to have friends that you can share your deepest burdens with, and have them pray with you and for you.

### **Who Leads the Connection Team?**

We call our connection team leaders "Coaches." The connection team coach is the person who coordinates and facilitates the gathering of their particular team, and makes sure that the purpose of the team is being fulfilled. The connection team will typically meet in the home of the coach, or possibly one of the other members of the team. The coach helps choose a Bible study for their team, and leads in the discussion and study of the chosen subject. We hope that new teams will be started from existing teams, when a couple or an individual desires to become a life coach and facilitate their own team. If you have the gift of leadership and you desire to serve others as a Connection coach, please let us know.

## Why should you Join a Connection team?

Whether single or married, every believer will benefit from joining a connection team. Involvement in a small group is an essential part of a believer's growth as a Christian. In fact, reliance on a small group dates back to the earliest days of the Christian Church. Christians who had actually walked with Jesus gathered in this type of setting to support each other and grow in their faith. Your connection team will become a very important part of your walk with God.

- You will be a part of a team where you are loved and accepted for who you are.
- You will make friends that will last a lifetime.
- You will grow together with your friends in a closer personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and in your understanding of Bible truths.
- You will have friends with whom to share both your joys and burdens with every week, which will help you to handle life's challenges better than you can alone.
- You will be accountable to these friends who will encourage you in your daily walk with Christ.
- You will be able to better handle stress and pressure. Everyone faces pressure from circumstances in their daily lives, or perhaps in time of crisis. When you are a part of a connection team, you will have friends ready to help you through the difficult times.

## How can you get connected with your own team?

As soon as people express an interest in getting into a group, we will help them find a team that is well-suited for them. We will also have special "Recruitment Days" throughout the year to get people signed up. We along with many other Churches have discovered that in most cases it is best to be a part of a team that is made up of others who share similar circumstances of life. Basically you will choose your team by the following criteria:

- Stage of Life (Average age of the group members)
- Possible invitation by members of a team with room for another couple or individual
- Marital Status
- Convenience of the location of the meeting place
- Meeting day and time that fits your schedule

We are ready right now to help you "**Get Connected**" with a team of other believers like you, who desire to grow in a relationship with Jesus and with other believers. Simply call the Church office at 727-546-1196, or fill out a Connection Group Information card in the back of the chairs located in the worship center, or stop by the Information Center in the front atrium and ask for information about getting connected.

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