

## **LOCAL PREACHER'S COURSE ON SMALL GROUP**

<b>MODULE</b>	Small Group Ministry
<b>DATE</b>	March 23 <sup>rd</sup> and May 4 <sup>th</sup> 2013
<b>VENUE</b>	Grace Methodist Church, Sentul
<b>INSTRUCTOR</b>	Rev. Dr. Andrew Tan
<b>COST</b>	RM30.00 (Lunch, Tea & Material)
<b>REGISTRATION</b>	Register by 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2013 with <a href="mailto:grace_sentul@hotmail.com">grace_sentul@hotmail.com</a> , Tel : 03-40436384 (O). Give your name and Church to the GMC office, and pay when you register your attendance on 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2013.

### **Course Description**

This is a tutored course in Small Group Ministry Training designed specifically for those seeking a Local Preachers' Licence to preach. This course includes SG philosophy, leadership, leading the meetings, group dynamics, problems, caring and outreach.

### **Course Requirements:**

#### **1. Read two books below:**

a) Mallison, John, *Growing Christians in Small Groups*, Sydney: SU & JCBE, 1989.  
(The book can be downloaded for free in <http://www.johnmallison.com/jmcellbook.htm>. The book, *The Small-Group Leader*, is a major revision and substantial expansion of the author's previous best-seller, *Growing Christians in Small Groups*.)

b) Cloud, Henry, and John Townsend. *Making Small Groups Work: What Every Small Group Leader Needs to Know*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.

The candidate will submit a statement to the effect that he/she has completed the reading. The statement must be countersigned by his/her pastor and sent to the Instructor (together with the two completed assignments). Please send to:

Rev. Andrew Tan  
Emmanuel Methodist Church  
11-5, Jalan PJU 1/39  
Dataran Prima  
47301 Petaling Jaya.

OR you could fax to him: 03-78065662, or email to him: [andrewtankk@gmail.com](mailto:andrewtankk@gmail.com)

## 2. Attend the Lectures

The candidate must attend all the lectures, on both days. Anyone who does not attend both days of lectures will be considered as not having fulfilled the course requirements in order to pass this module. Attendance will be taken on both days.

### Time Table

<b>Time</b>	<b>Modules: March 23</b>	<b>Modules: May 4</b>
8.30 am	Registration	Registration
8.45 am	Worship	Worship
9.00 am	1. <u>Philosophy of SG Ministry</u> a. Basis of SG Ministry b. Values of SG Ministry c. Structure of SG Ministry d. Goals of the SG Ministry	5. <u>Small Group Dynamics</u> a. Starting a Small Group b. Stages of Group Life c. Dynamics Affecting Group Life
10.45 am	TEA TIME	
11.00 am	2. <u>Leadership of SG Ministry</u> a. Roles of a SG Leader b. Growth of a SG Leader c. Developing a SG Leader d. Roles of SG Supervisor, SG Coordinator, SG Director and Pastor	6. <u>Small Group Problems</u> a. Conflict Management b. Individual Problems c. Group Problems/Other Problems
12.30 pm	LUNCH TIME	
1.15 pm	3. <u>Conducting SG Meetings (1)</u> <u>Adoration</u> a. Purposes of Adoration b. Roles and Functions of a Worship Leader c. Preparation to Lead Adoration <u>Study</u> a. Domains of Learning b. Purposes of Study Time c. Steps in Facilitating Study Time d. Skills in Facilitating Study Time	7. <u>Caring for SG Members</u> a. Creating a Caring Environment b. Care of Members c. Sponsor-Sponsee Program d. Encouraging Spiritual Growth
2.45 pm	TEA TIME	
3.00 pm	4. <u>Conducting SG Meetings (2)</u> <u>Accountability</u> a. Rationale for Accountability b. Areas of Accountability c. Facilitating Accountability d. Covenant Groups <u>Prayer</u> a. Importance of Praying Together b. Forms of Prayer c. Methods of Prayer a. Overcoming Difficulties in Prayer	8. <u>Service of SG Members</u> a. Services of SG Ministry b. Principles of SG Evangelism c. Evangelistic Events of SG d. Why and How We Multiply
4.30 pm	CLOSING	
4.45 pm	EVALUATION	
5.00 pm	HOME	

- 3. Write two assignments (about 1,500 words each), one from each of the two sections.**  
(Please write the entire question as the heading on your paper.)

Section One: Write an essay on an aspect of your experience or anticipated experience as a SG leader. Although you write from your experience, you must also reflect from the two books (or other theories, principles, practices, etc. from other books you have read), and the input from the lectures.

- a) i) Describe your current practices/roles as a SG leader. Give a critique of yourself as a SG leader. What are the areas you would like to improve as a result of both the lectures and the two books (or more) you have read? ii) What are your joys and pains as a SG leader? If there were little or no joys in being a SG leader or if the ministry is becoming a burden, what would you do? Will you still be a SG leader or give up; why?
- b) Is the SG meeting you attend/lead well prepared in all its segments using 4Ws, ASAP or any other format? Briefly describe them. How will you or the SG leader prepare to lead the meeting? If some segments of the meeting are delegated to others, how would you ensure that the entire SG meeting is well executed and well coordinated?
- c) Describe the stage (of the group dynamic) your SG is in. Bearing in mind your ultimate goal is to grow and multiply your SG, what should the SG leader be doing now to move forward the SG? What other SG dynamics are there that needs to happen or stop?
- d) What can you say about the quality of caring in your SG? Does caring happen spontaneously or is it planned carefully? What can the SG leader do to ensure that you meet the care needs of your SG members? How would you motivate your members to care for each other?
- e) How does your SG reach out to their non-Christian families and friends, ministry needs of your church, or the communities in our society? If you do, evaluate the result and suggest improvements. If your SG does not, what does the SG leader need to do to bring about the change in doing outreach?

Section Two:

- a) What applications can we make from Wesley's practice of small groups (societies, classes, bands, select societies, and penitent bands) into today's small group as practiced in our churches? (You need to be sensitive to the contexts.)
- b) What is your own philosophy of small group ministry? To what extent do you agree (or disagree) with what is presented in the lectures in module 1(basis, values, structure and goals)? In particular, comment on (i) the format of ASAP (as opposed to the commonly held 4Ws), (ii) how well you think the segment on Accountability will be received by our SG members, and (iii) whether it is too demanding to expect the SG leader to do all that is taught in the lectures?
- c) Assuming that you want to promote SG ministry to the entire membership of your church, how will you go about? In particular, (i) what will you share with your pastor what you see needs to be done, (ii) what would you want to see the SG Committee do (See Section XI. Membership/ Cell/Parish/Small Groups, paragraph. 142 on page 60 of the 2008 *The Book of Discipline*), (iii) what would you do personally?

## Other Practical Books For Your Interest:

- Arnold, Jeffrey. *The Big Book on Small Groups*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2004.
- Barker, Steve, et al. *Good Things Come in Small Groups*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1985.
- Donahue Bill. *Leading Life-Changing Small Groups*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002.
- George, Carl, and Warren Bird. *The Coming Church Revolution: Empowering Leaders for the Future*. Grand Rapids: Revell, 1994.
- . *Nine Keys to Effective Small Group Leadership: How Lay Leaders Can Establish Dynamic and Healthy Cells, Classes, or Teams*. Mansfield, PA: Kingdom, 1997.
- George, Carl, et al. *New Directions for Small Group Ministry*. Loveland, CO: Vital Ministry, 1999.
- McBride, Neal F. *How to Build a Small Group Ministry*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1995.
- . *How to Have Great Small Group Meetings*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1997.
- Neighbour, Ralph W., Jr. *The Shepherd's Guidebook: Spiritual and Practical Foundations for Cell Group Leaders*. Singapore: Touch Ministries International, 1994.
- . *Where Do We Go from Here? A Guidebook for the Cell Group Church*. Houston, TX: Touch Ministry International, 1990.