

# The Vision of Community Groups at Ethnos

## Our church vision:

“Helping skeptics become world changers, both here and abroad.”

## What is a world changer?

A world changer is an influential leader who is able to lead teams of people in the community and their place of work to live out the mission of Jesus.

-A world changer is an influential leader, so they don't try to do it all themselves. Instead they realize the importance of community and seek to develop a community to live out the mission of Love, Grow, Serve, and Witness.

-A world changer is out ward focused. They reach into the church to develop people who will exercise their influence in the workplace and surrounding community.

-A world changer is focused on developing people who can develop others. They are passionate about helping others find their voice, develop their gifts, and discover new resources of strength.

-A world changer is sold out to Jesus. They love Jesus. They are growing in Jesus. They are serving Jesus. They are witnessing to the reality of Jesus.

## “How do we accomplish our vision?”

Community groups are the most important component for Ethnos to accomplish this vision. It is in the community groups where leaders are discovered, developed, empowered and sent.

**-Discovered:** Most people will enter a community group and participate in it for a while before they commit to doing anything. They will watch their community group leaders contribute to their lives and benefit from their work. We call this level of discipleship a (D-1) disciple. They will learn about Jesus and the way His mission relates to their lives. It is at this point that community group leaders begin to recognize those who are hungry for Jesus and want to go farther in discipleship.

**-Developed:** When a community group leader recognizes a person's hunger and abilities, he or she initiates a conversation with that person to serve as a part of the leadership team in the community group. The community group leader's primary job is to develop the leadership team, not run the group. We call this level of development (D-2) discipleship. The leadership team is the team that helps the group live out the mission of love, grow, serve, witness. As such, teammates will include a Bible study coordinator, host, service project coordinator; people care coordinator, social activities coordinator, and others pending on the goals of the group. The leadership team runs the details of the community group. The community group leader disciplines the leadership team.

**Empowered:** Once a member of the leadership team is developed they are encouraged to start a community group of their own. We call this level of development (D-3) discipleship. They can do this in any number of ways, but the most common is to multiply the existing group. As they lead their own group they learn how to develop other leaders

instead of just performing the tasks of running a group. The more community groups Ethnos has the more leaders we will develop. The more leaders we develop the more world changers will be equipped to live out the mission of Jesus.

**Sent:** Once a person has been developed as a leader and has multiplied his or her community group they are encouraged go down one of two tracks. Both of these tracks are considered (D-4) discipleship. The first track is to coach other community group leaders in how to develop others and multiply groups.

The second track is to develop a community group in their place of work. The community group may take on different shapes but the primary goal will be to develop a group of people who live out the mission of Love, Grow, Serve, Witness in the workplace. If the vision of the church is to develop world changers, than to truly change the world for Jesus requires us to develop people who can lead in the world. We expect a world changer will go beyond this expectation, but at the same time this will be an important step to accomplish any further goals.

Many of our alumni will leave Ethnos and go to parts of the world where there is no Christian community to be a part of. Our vision is that through this process they will be disciplined to the point were they can develop their own Christian community and in so doing live out the mission of Love, Grow, Serve, and Witness wherever they go. But we know that this will only happen if we are intentional about the vision and work together to develop people to become world changers.