



Parent Preview

2008-2009 > North Phoenix



HARVEST
BIBLE CHAPEL

www.harvestnorthphoenix.org
480-626-0888

We are a ministry of students spurring others on to worship Christ, walk with Christ, and work for Christ.



We are so fired up about serving your family and the students of Harvest. We are all about helping students passionately pursue Jesus Christ – not only during their adolescent years, but for the rest of their lives. We desire to provide environments for students to

> engage with God

> engage with God's people

> engage with God's Word, and

> engage with God's world

We believe home groups are the most effective way to provide personal care for your child and spur him/her on to worship, walk, and work for Christ.

What are Harvest Students home groups?

Student home groups are not small large groups.

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Student home groups are not adult home groups.

Student home groups are student home groups.

We are committed to providing healthy home groups throughout the North Phoenix Area. Here are some values that we have for these home groups:

- a) **We believe home groups are most effective when there are 20-40 guys & girls in a home with 4-6 gender-based small groups.** A critical mass of students is needed for there to be a vibrancy and energy in the home. We want our homes to be exciting places! Yet, a huge priority is to breakdown this larger group into meaningful, gender-based small groups. Most nights, students will be in the large group for 75 minutes and small groups for 45 minutes + snack and interaction time at end. As a home group has consistently more than 45-50 students, we'll multiply into 2 homes of 25 students and grow from there.

- b) **We believe home groups must have interactive teaching centered on God's Word.**
Harvest Students Home Groups value ...
- ✓ *God's Word as our authority for life and godliness.*
The Bible needs to be the foundation for discussion and direction.
 - ✓ *Students bringing their Bibles ... and actually using them!*
Each home group is designed to get students to dig into the Bible and not merely talk about the Bible.
 - ✓ *Interactive teaching.*
Students should be engaged with God's Word through a conversational approach to teaching where students are able to contribute in the learning process.
 - ✓ *Equipping students to correctly study the Bible.*
The format of home groups models practical Bible study methods of observation, interpretation, and application.
 - ✓ *Teaching the whole council of God.*
We seek to study books of the Bible – although we offer discipleship-oriented topics from time to time.
 - ✓ *Personal application of God's Truth.*
Knowledge without application is lifeless. Transformation occurs as students apply and practice the truth of God's Word in daily life.
 - ✓ *Having fun while studying God's Word in community.*
Someone has said, "It's a sin to bore students with the Bible." We agree! Bible study can be fun while at the same time meaningful and focused.
- c) **We believe home groups must have a team of committed, trained, caring, and godly leaders.** We have a fantastic team of adults that are ready to pour into the life of your child. We seek to have a balance of mentors in their 20's, 30's, and 40's within the same home. Our mentors understand the importance of modeling Christ to our students. They realize the need to pray for your child and connect appropriately outside of the home group context. If your child gets involved in a small group, our leaders will follow up with students who are MIA. But your child needs to get involved! Our leaders are committed to receiving training once-a-month and meeting often with. These mentors are fired up about serving and own the vision of this ministry.
- d) **We believe home groups must be fun, duh!** Our fun is not just limited to a crazy game. Our approach to home groups creates environments that students enjoy, while not compromising our commitment to the Word, worship, and prayer. We want our home groups to be places that students truly enjoy going to and where they feel affirmation, belonging, and care!
- e) **We believe home groups must be inclusive, not exclusive.** Students will be told they need to bring 2 things every home group night – their Bible and a friend. We believe our home groups are great contexts for non-believers to come and explore Christianity in the context of a peer community. Students will be regularly encouraged to serve the physical, relational, and spiritual needs of others.
- f) **We believe home groups must have food!** Our leadership team will gather an hour before each night for a lite meal, and small groups provide snacks at the end of each home group.

When do we meet?

Wednesdays, 6:30-9:00

Most Wednesdays except when we meet for Monthly specials.

Is there more to Harvest Students than just Home Groups?

As we begin to build the Student Ministry at Harvest, it is our goal to offer some wonderful traditions like retreats, missions trips, service projects, and summer camp opportunities.

We are in the process of developing some of these ideas, watch for more details.

We are currently devoting most of our attention to enhancing our home groups and making these exciting and healthy environments for our students.

How Can Parents Help?

Are you sitting there thinking, "Wow! What a great plan for our students! I wonder how I can help?" If so, here are some real practical things that you can do.

1. **We need your prayers.** Developing a healthy student ministry is a big undertaking. Please pray for us as we seek guidance and wisdom. Also, be sure to pray for your child as he/she grows during these adolescent years.
2. **Please encourage your child to be involved.** The window of opportunity in helping you reach and disciple your child is so small. It's limited to only a few years. The wise thing to do is get your child involved early in the school year. The reality is that most students that are not plugged in by early October will not get plugged in the rest of the year. This is just a fact.

Get your child to the first home group on Wednesday, September 19 AND make sure he/she goes to at least the first 4 home groups. We want all students to love the first night, but the reality is that it might take a few more nights. If your child is not connecting, please don't hesitate to contact us. The best way to hear from us is to contact the church office. We need to hear from you. Otherwise, we won't know.

3. **Please turn in a completed Release Form for your child TODAY!** This enables us to update our database and allows your child to participate in Harvest Students events through August, 2008.
4. **Offer to provide some food or assist with clean up after a home group.**
 - **Leader Team Meal** - Each home group adult leader team will meet for an hour before the start time for a lite meal, to talk through the evening, and to pray together. **Would you consider providing even one meal a semester?**
 - **Snack Time** - Each home group will have snacks at the end of the night. When it's your child's small group night, why not go over the top and provide an amazing snack?

- **Set out snacks & wipe down counter tops** - Also, our host families would love it if a mom or dad volunteered once a month to lay out the snacks and wipe off the counter tops after the home group.

Do you think you could help us out? If so, contact skleeberger@harvestbible.org.

5. **Offer your home as we grow.** We expect the number of home groups to expand as this ministry grows and will need to multiply into more homes! Perhaps you have a home we could use!

Harvest Students Ministry Team

Our *Harvest Students* Ministry Team consists of:

1. Seth Kleeberger
2. Chip & Kay Allison
3. Josh Hall
4. Amy Burns

As you can see, WE NEED MORE LEADERS! Please be praying for this and continue to pray for our team as we attempt to minister to your kids!

Don't hesitate to let us know how we can serve your family!

