



The Fight Club “System”

Fight Club Mission Statement (Concise Statement)

A Fight Club is a place where 3-5 Christians (all men or all women) gather 2-4 times a month to dig deeper into one another's lives as they confront indwelling sin and point one another back to the gospel.

Fight Club Purpose Statement (Full Statement)

The purpose of a Fight Club is to dig deeper into the real stuff of life and fight the fight of faith with other professing Christians. This is a space where indwelling sins are more intentionally confronted and walked through outside of Missional Community. Fight Club members should be regular Missional Community and worship gathering attenders who are looking for a deeper level of accountability and vulnerability with others. Fight Clubs exist to encourage its members to grow in their faith, repent of their sins, and be renewed and refreshed in the gospel of Jesus Christ so that they can carry the image of God more faithfully to their church, their family and their community at large.

What is a Fight Club?

A Fight Club is a smaller group of Christians (3-5 men or women) who meet together 2-4 times per month outside of Missional Community. Members of a Fight Club aren't required to be in the same Missional Community, but should all attend the same church (Sacred City Davenport or Sacred City Moline). Fight Club members should be professing believers who are looking to dig deeper with others in the church for mutual accountability in putting indwelling sin to death and walking in deeper obedience to Christ. Fight Clubs can meet for as long as the members desire to. Members of a Fight Club should regularly attend Missional Community and the worship gathering. Anyone can discuss with their Missional Community leaders, Fight Club as a possible next step in their discipleship.

Fight Club is not intended to be a “mission field”, but is intended to be a time for members of the Body to come together, minister to one another and point each other back to the grace and blessing of the gospel. Because of this mutual ministering, there are no appointed leaders in a Fight Club. Rather each member has the opportunity to bring their unique giftings to the group for the building up of one another. If a member of the Fight Club wants to invite another person in, they should discuss it and be in agreement with the other members of the Fight Club. It is important to keep the groups small so that each member can bear one another's burdens effectively.

Fight Clubs can meet weekly or bi-weekly, and should meet wherever is most conducive for deeper discussion and vulnerability (homes, restaurants, pubs, coffee shops, cigar bar, etc.)

Fight Club Oversight

The goal of a Fight Club is to be relatively self-sustaining. Elders have final oversight of all members of Fight Clubs and may encourage the use of an Elder-approved list of books or resources that Fight Clubs can go to. Missional Community leaders are encouraged to check in with Fight Club members in their Missional Communities, and may seek encouragement or advice from the Elders following these check-ins. Likewise, Fight Club members are encouraged to bring any concerns about fellow Fight Club members first to their MC leaders and then to the Elders (following the Matthew 18:15-17 process of seeking reconciliation as necessary).

Joining or Starting a Fight Club

To join or create a Fight Club, someone should desire deeper accountability, and discuss Fight Club with their leaders as a next step in discipleship. If someone has trouble finding men or women to form a Fight Club, Missional Community leaders are encouraged to work together to connect them with others also looking for a Fight Club.

Once a Fight Club is formed, the members should start by contacting Pastor Larry to let him know who is in their Fight Club, how often they meet and where. If Fight Club members meet in different locations, they only need to provide one place of meeting. Members will start by going through the book *Gospel-Centered Discipleship*. This book is the foundation for discipleship within Fight Clubs. From there, Fight Clubs are encouraged to use the go-to resource list to aid in their fight against sin.

Fight Club Focus

Fight Clubs should be able to focus in (rather than settling for mere small talk or surface-level conversation) and be simple and biblical in their content, centered on

- **Text** - The Word of God is what pierces our hearts and helps us see sin and Jesus more clearly.
- **Theology** - What does it mean, and how does the person and work of Jesus inform this text?
- **Life** - How does it apply to real life? Share your lives; promote grace-driven fighting, and faithful prayer.

Another way to think about this is through the lens of Head-Heart-Hands.

- **Head** - understanding God's Word and the content being read or discussed.
- **Heart** - how that understanding stirs our affections and desires.
- **Hands** - how those new affections and desires change our real lives and actions.

Sin affects us in all three of these areas, so if we're looking for real change, it must occur in them all. In order to fight for this change, Fight Clubs should "gospel" one another.

Gospelizing is the practice of applying the good news of the gospel to a person's heart, idols, wounds, story, or worldview. It is how we counsel people in and with the gospel. The opportunity for gospelizing comes when we see or hear ways in which a person is failing to believe the truth of the gospel, and is living contrary to it. By asking good questions, Fight Clubs can help people see such "gospel snags" and draw them toward repentance and faith. By gospelizing one another, Fight Clubs can together learn to enjoy Jesus more deeply and worship him more fully.

Additionally, Fight Clubs should encourage one another in healthy, ongoing spiritual disciplines necessary for personal maturity in Christ (prayer, reading and studying the Bible, silence and solitude, etc.).

Fight Club FAQ's

This list is meant to be a simple and concise help to Missional Community leaders in sharing the vision of Fight Clubs and answering questions that people in their Missional Communities may have.

What is a Fight Club

A Fight Club is a place where 3-5 Christians (all men or all women) gather 2-4 times a month to dig deeper into one another's lives as they confront indwelling sin and point one another back to the gospel.

Do I have to be a member of a Missional Community to join a Fight Club?

Yes. Fight Club members should be professing believers who are already regularly engaged with a Missional Community.

Why should I join a Fight Club?

Fight Club is a place for Christians weary of struggling against their sin alone, and offers a place for this to be done on a deeper level, including sin and struggle that may not be so freely discussed in a larger-group context like Missional Community.

How do I join a Fight Club?

Reach out to your Missional Community leaders for help in connecting you with others in the Missional Community or church who are also looking to join a Fight Club.

What material does a Fight Club use?

Fight Clubs should use resources pertaining to what the members are in need of. A go-to list of books and resources is available for all Fight Clubs to use.

Who leads a Fight Club?

Fight Clubs have no specified leaders, but should be mutually beneficial to each member. Each person carries a responsibility for facilitating or contributing to discussion, asking good questions, and caring for one another.

What if conflict arises in a Fight Club?

Fight Clubs should follow the pieces of reconciliation in Matthew 18:15-17. Conflict should be dealt with first individually and/or together in the Fight Club, and if reconciliation does not occur, the issue should be brought to Missional Community leaders and finally the Elders if or when necessary.

Resource List

- Gospel-Centered Discipleship, Jonathan Dodson
- The Relational Soul, Richard Plass & Jim Cofield
- The Enemy Within, Chris Lungaard
- Desiring God, John Piper
- When I Don't Desire God, John Piper
- Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands, Tedd Tripp
- You Can Change, Tim Chester
- Prodigal God, Tim Keller
- The Imperfect Disciple, Jared C. Wilson
- The Road Back to You, Ian Morgan Cron
- Union With Christ, Rankin Wilbourne
- The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry, John Mark Comer
- The Praying Life, Paul Miller
- How People Change, Paul Tripp
- Gentle and Lowly, Dane Ortlund
- Abba's Child, Brennan Manning
- The Attributes of God, AW Tozer
- Ephesians Study, Brad Watson
- Jonah Study, Brad Watson
- Knowing God, J.I Packer