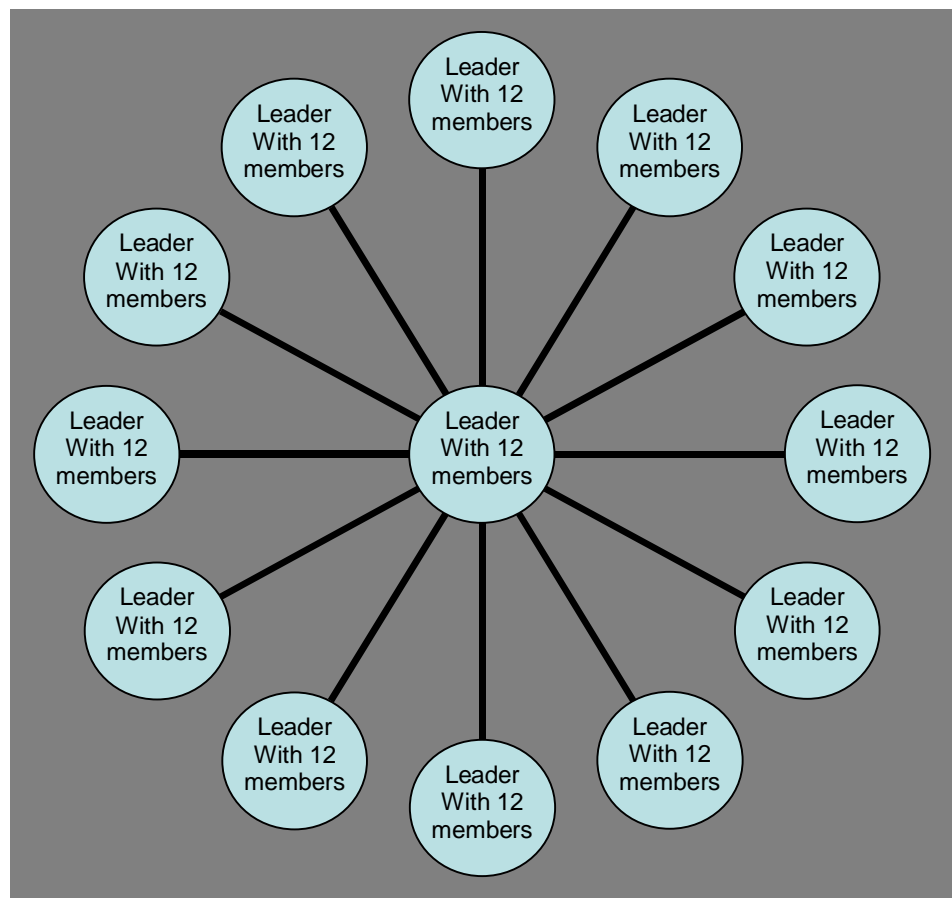


APC-12 Cell Groups

...where everyone is ministered to, and everyone becomes a minister...



LEADERSHIP TRAINING MANUAL

All Peoples Church

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Acknowledgement:

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1.0 WHY CELLS?

In a growing church, it becomes more and more difficult to **truly disciple all the members** of the church. In addition, members feel left out or insignificant in a large, crowded auditorium. Many wonder if anyone would miss them if they stopped coming.

Cell groups allow every church member to meet with a small group of people. The members of a cell group can receive one-on-one time with a cell leader, build **closer fellowship** with the people in the group, and **gain accountability** from the members of the group. Cells are also evangelistic. Cell leaders and members can **lead several people to Jesus** in cell groups.

2.0 WHAT ARE CELLS?

What are cells? In the human body, the smallest unit is the cell. All the parts of the human cell work together to grow, maintain health, and reproduce more human cells.

For All Peoples Church, **cells are the smallest unit of our church**. The cell group members work together to grow in Christ, maintain spiritual health, and create more APC cells. Cells are also a place to get connected in the church, fellowship, and build relationships. **More than just a Bible study**, a cell group supports its members, keeps its members accountable, and places members under the authority of the church.

3.0 HOW DO CELLS WORK?

APC will be implementing an adapted G-12 model, which we call APC-12. An **APC-12 cell group** has no more than twelve members or twelve couples. The APC-12 model enables fast cell growth, trains new leaders, and disciples every member of the body. **The aim of the model is to minister to everyone and to have everyone become a minister.** Cell leaders are members who volunteer and are trained first as apprentices in an established cell group. Members are encouraged to become leaders of their own cell group while continuing to attend the cell group they are already in. In this way a structure of authority is created.

A variety of APC-12 Cell Groups can be formed. There can be pin code cell groups for people who want to attend a cell group close to home. There can be youth cell groups for members of our youth group, drama cell groups for those interested in drama as an outreach, and many more. All of APC's cell groups meet once a week or twice a month. Meetings take place in group members' homes, apartments, businesses, restaurants, schools, host homes, just about anywhere. Ultimately, each cell leader should be in a APC-12 Leadership cell and encourage their own group of 12 to start a cell group.

KINDS OF CELL GROUPS (IDEAS)

PIN Code Cell Groups

Bus Ministry Cell Groups

Business & Workplace Cell Groups

Couples Connection Cell Groups

Joyful Mothers to Be (Believing God for Children)
Marriage Cell Groups
Music Cell Groups
New Members' Cell Groups
Nursery Cell Groups
Nursing Home Cell Groups
Prayer Cell Groups
Prison Cell Groups
Senior Adult Cell Groups
Singles Cell Groups
Single Mom's Cell Groups
Special Interest Cell Groups
Support Cell Groups
Women's Cells Groups
Men's Cells Groups
School Cell Groups
Watchman Ministry Cell Groups
Young Adult Cell Groups
Youth Cell Groups

4.0 THE APC-12 CELL GROUP MODEL

INTRODUCTION

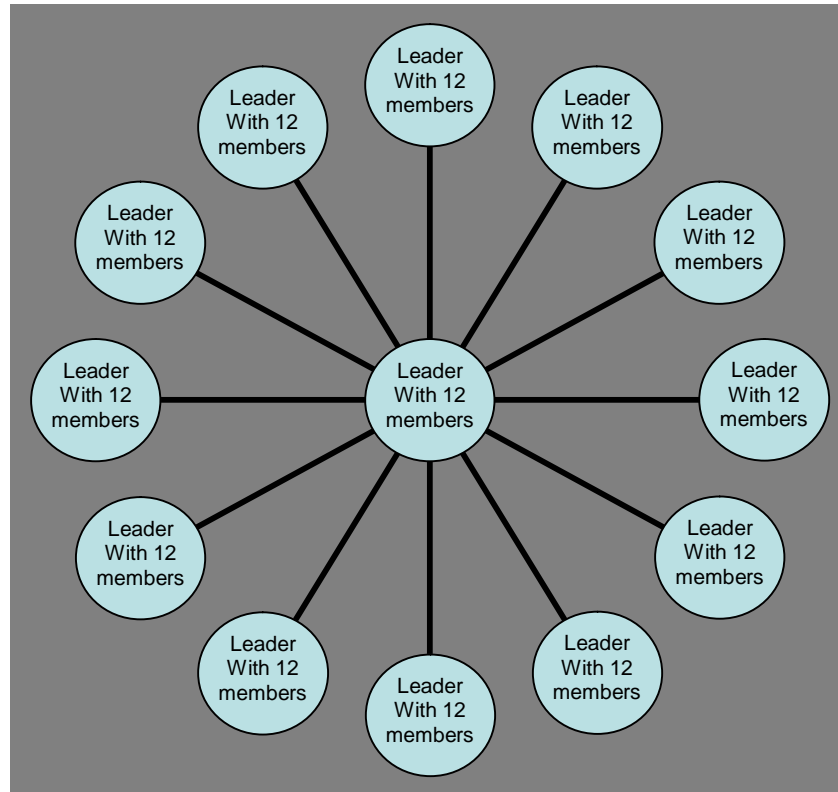
In this section, we will define the APC-12 cell group model—which APC adapted from the G12 or Groups of 12 model—as well as outline the basis for the APC-12 cell group model, list qualities to look for in APC-12 members, and the strengths of the APC-12 model.

THE APC-12 CELL GROUP MODEL IN A NUT SHELL

In other cell group models, small groups are allowed to grow up to a certain size. After the group reaches that limit, the group would split and the two new groups would grow. This means relationships that had built up may not continue and a structure for accountability has not been maintained.

In the APC-12 cell group model, **groups do not divide; they multiply**. In the APC-12 model, there are **two types of cell groups: Open cells and Leadership cells**. When a person (believer) becomes part of an open cell group, they start to pray and fast for three non-Christians. One by one they are led to Christ and become part of the cell. The new members of the cell group are brought to APC. They then enter APC's **Biblical Foundations Course** where they are taught foundational truths of God's Word. When these new members have completed the Biblical Foundations course, they are ready to start their own open cell group while still attending the original group. When all the members of the original group have started their own open cell, the original cell group becomes a Leadership cell. The Leadership cell is made up of leaders who have their own cells. These leaders meet for leadership training, to share about their progress, and for encouragement and support.

The aim of the APC-12 model is that everybody is involved in reaching out to the lost through an open cell, and that everybody becomes a leader, and in time, runs their own open cell. Everyone is ministered to and everyone becomes a minister. All the leaders are directly accountable to one leader above them, and no one leader is keeping more than twelve people accountable. In this way, the APC-12 structure helps cell groups to stay healthy. If a person's life is not right, they do not automatically stay in an APC-12 cell group. They are removed and replaced by another person.



JESUS AS OUR ROLE MODEL

Jesus taught us this lesson of the group of 12 by example. He chose 12 and worked to shape their character. He did not deal with people based on their obvious abilities, but according to the potential He knew they had within. He sent them out to preach, heal the sick, and cast out demons. It was Jesus' strategy to reproduce the character of God in His disciples. He came to this world, multitudes followed Him, and He healed many. However, even though He ministered to the multitudes, He always ministered separately to His 12 disciples to instruct them and shape their character.

People fail in ministry because they had no one to help them shape their character. The APC-12 principle offers personal training to every one in a cell group. Leaders teach and train people how to become a cell leader and do the work of the ministry. Accountability

is made easy because the leader knows how the people live, how they treat their family, how they take care of their home, etc.

PRESENT-DAY SUCCESS STORY: THE INTERNATIONAL CHARISMATIC MISSION

Pastor Cesar Castellanos started the International Charismatic Mission in March of 1983 with eight people gathering in his living room in Bogotá, Columbia. Today the church has around 48,000 cell groups. Attendance in the church is over 280,000. The youth meet in a rented stadium seating 20,000 every Saturday. There are two youth services with more than 30,000 in attendance taking in 13,000 youth cells. Up to 1,000 young people give their lives to Jesus for the first time each week.

THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF THE APC-12 CELL GROUP MODEL

1. Everyone is a potential cell leader.
2. Everyone can disciple 12 people.
3. Everyone is ministered to and then ministers.
4. A person is in your Leadership cell group only when they have started an open cell group.
5. Everyone should win souls and develop potential cell leaders.
6. Cells open more rapidly homogenously.
7. The 12 in your Leadership cell group are your prodigy.

STRENGTHS OF THE APC-12 CELL GROUP MODEL

1. Every person is a potential cell leader.
2. Relationships are maintained.
3. Less hierarchy than other models and more accountability
4. More adaptable.
5. Multiplication occurs more rapidly.

DEFINING THE TWO TYPES OF CELL GROUPS

Open Cells – these groups meet weekly/biweekly for no more than one and one half hours. Each Open Cell group meeting is involved in praise and worship, prayer, the Word (cell lesson), fellowship, and evangelism. These open cell groups are to be evangelistic in nature and always bringing in new believers and new members.

The cell lesson is determined by the cell leader. The cell leader, based on who is part of the cell group, their maturity level, their needs, etc., can determine what lessons are to be pursued. Resources from APC Study Center & Library, APC's Biblical Foundations Course, Rewind (Outline of Pastor's Sunday messages), or other good Christian books can be used. It is important that everything that is communicated as part of the cell lesson be sound doctrine and in harmony with APC's Statement of Faith as stated in the Membership Information Booklet. Maintain a good spiritual balance. A good starting approach for cell lessons is to simply reinforce the Sunday's Message. You can have a copy of Rewind (Outline of Pastor's Sunday messages) emailed to you or posted to you. You are welcome to contact/meet with your APC-12 Leader for guidance in this area.

The leader of the open cell group is responsible for nurturing, discipling and equipping each one in their cell group. The cell leader should be viewed as an extension of the pastor's ministry to the church body.

The cell leader can decide upon special activities, outreaches, etc., which the cell group can be involved in. Cell groups fellowship lunches, picnics, sports activities, etc will foster strong bonds between members. Outreach and ministry activities will serve both as a training for the members plus a genuine outreach ministry by members of the church body.

Cell leaders will be responsible for following up with First Time Visitors to the Sunday service. This will also be a good way to welcome people into open cell groups.

The leader observes the group and encourages maturing members of his or her open cell group to start their own open cell group.

Once the leader has 12 leaders that have opened their own cell group, the original open cell becomes a leadership cell.

Members of other churches cannot be part of an APC cell group. While they are welcome to visit occasionally, members of other churches are not necessarily aligned to the vision of APC, neither will they be accountable to the Cell Group Leader, the Leadership or the Pastor of APC. Hence, we do not allow members of other churches to be part of an APC cell group.

Leadership Cells – this is a closed group made up of 12 individuals or 12 couples that have started their own open cell group. The purpose of this group is to mentor, disciple, and teach leadership principles to the members of the group. The Leadership cell group ideally would meet each week or twice a month. The format of the meeting is different from the open cell. In this group, the leader shares information that the Pastor wants to share with all Leadership cells, and the members would share what happened in their open cell group or their Leadership cell that week. In addition to discussing information from the Pastor, Leadership cells can continue doing the cell lessons or can also use other material for more intense leadership training, character development, and spiritual growth. The group would continue to ask if there are any personal needs and pray for them.

QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS IN LEADERSHIP CELLS

- Strong character.
- Integrity.
- Teachable.
- Submissive.
- Aggressively pursuing a holy lifestyle.
- Called to APC's vision.
- Willing to make the time commitment to the Leadership cell.
- A person who has fruit in their life and has opened their own open cell group.

SUMMARY

“The ‘model of 12’ Jesus gave us can be summed up this way: As a group member, you should find a leader you can trust, and submit yourself to them, serving as unto the Lord. If you are a leader, find 12 people who trust you as a leader and pour yourself into them, requiring them to do the same for their own group of 12.” –Rocky Malloy. This quote is from Rocky Malloy’s book “Groups of 12”.

5.0 DEVELOP THE VISION OF THE TWELVE

Consider that each can shepherd twelve.

- 12 is the number of people over whom a direct genuine, effective pastorate can be readily exerted.
- Although we will have a large church, we will also have a small church. The large church is the whole congregation, while the small church is each group of twelve.
- Each disciple is a potential leader and will become what we have sown in him.

Everyone must be ministered to, in order to minister to others.

- Maintain a continuous relationship with your twelve.
- Develop an intimate relationship with each member.
- Help detect, uncover, address, resolve, and overcome problems – in all areas.
- Continuous ministry helps the leader to know his Twelve in an individual and personal way.
- Exercise positive influence without negative control.
- The ministry of inner healing, deliverance, and the breaking of bondages, gives authority to the disciples to be able to help others, because one who has never been ministered to could never minister to others. When you are ministered to, you receive the anointing to minister to others.
- Rely on the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Whoever bears the fruit receives the recognition

Matthew 7:20

Therefore by their fruits you shall know them.

- Encourage your Twelve to bear fruit.
- Continuously encourage soul winning – look for souls, create strategies to share the gospel, and know how to minister.
- Use the “prayer of three” – to pray for three unsaved souls and follow after them.
- Reproduction by homogenous cell groups is important – something more important than geographic location, ie, the ability to connect, fellowship with and share experiences. Once there are strong relationship ties, spiritual ministry is easier. E.g.: men with men, women with women, youth look out for youth, couples with couples, etc.
- Consider the twelve as your assistants – they are an extension of your ministry and can assist you in all operations of the cell group.

- Form an Annex group when appropriate – an additional group of Twelve who are being trained in addition to your Primary Twelve. You take care and minister to your Annex Twelve, just as you would your Primary Twelve. If someone in your Primary Twelve has to leave (e.g. relocation, etc.) you can move people from your Annex Twelve to your Primary Twelve.

A good vision will positively influence new generations.

6.0 THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF THE CELLS

#1. First Commandment: Love the cellular vision.

- Where there is no love, there is nothing profitable (1 Corinthians 13:2-3)
- Love your cells deeply.

#2. Second Commandment: Do not divert from the cell vision.

- A key to success of the cell vision is perseverance, i.e., being faithful to the vision. Diverting away from the cell vision can be easy, but refuse to go that route.

#3. Third Commandment: Do not allow the cell to become unfruitful.

- Every cell has to be evangelistic in nature.
- Every one must make an effort to go out and look for people.
- New cells must be periodically started.
- Bring forth fruit. Bring forth more fruit. Bring forth much fruit (John 15:2,5).

#4. Fourth Commandment: Meet once in a week or twice a month.

- Stick to the frequency for your cell meetings
- The vision of the church should be reproduced in the cell meetings

#5. Fifth Commandment: Cells must help in family restoration.

- Meet the needs of the people.
- Restore family relationships between children/parents, husband/wife.

#6. Sixth Commandment: Make a leader of each member.

#7. Seventh Commandment: Guard the group's sanctity.

#8. Eighth Commandment: Do not build on another's foundation.

- Don't attract people from another cell group.

#9. Ninth Commandment: Never allow murmuring inside the cell.

- When murmuring and gossip begins it results in devastation.
- As a Cell Leader you should guard your tongue and never murmur about the pastor, the leaders or the church.
- Do not encourage murmuring or gossiping in your cell.

#10. Tenth Commandment: Develop your goals strategically.

- Have achievable goals that require effort on your part.
- Goals must be clear with the purpose of multiplication.
- Work as a team.

7.0 A LADDER TO SUCCESS

Possess the virtue of powerful spiritual strength that is overcoming and energetic, since the world needs people who are aggressive in the Word, strong of spirit, and who are worth imitating.

Four steps in the ladder of success:

WIN SOULS
CONSOLIDATE
DISCIPLE
SEND

Consolidate

Conservation of the fruit

- Avoid Barrenness
- Without birth pains there is no multiplication

Galatians 4:19

My children, for whom I again travail until Christ should be formed in you,

Five stages of growth for each person:

- a. Revelation of the Scriptures
- b. Discipleship
- c. Formation of character through the word
- d. Spiritual maturity
- e. The Ministerial life

The Consolidator and his process:

- Step by step until victory is achieved.

Principles that should rule the consolidation:

- Verify the surrender.
- Teach the new believer.

- Fellowship
- Guard Sanctity.
- Persevere in prayer

The success of the church is in the cells.