



Preliminary Theological Certificate

Information sheet for Group Leaders

If you wish to help people get deeper into the Bible, a PTC Group might be a useful tool for your ministry toolbox.

Studying the PTC in a Group motivates people, allows a leader to have input, enables broader discussion and learning from one another, and provides a forum to work out how to apply what is learnt.

Some churches use the PTC as part of a 'leadership pipeline' to raise up Bible-based partners for various ministries, so they are better equipped to lead others with the Word of God. Some Schools use the PTC in a classroom context or as Professional Development for Christian Teachers.

We've had 70+ year olds doing PTC, we've had 16-year olds and every age between. Most of the people who come simply love the Word and want to grow – Jason (Campbelltown)

People are growing in their knowledge of God and of his word. They are using this in their conversations, the groups they lead and other preaching and teaching that they do. People are developing in their leadership potential and roles – George (Albury)

I teach PTC now because I want the folk around me at church to know and love God, serve him and grow his kingdom as they proclaim the gospel of Jesus – Ken (Springwood)

PTC Group Presentation

Having a theologically trained group leader is an advantage to give complementary input although anyone can lead a group.

There are many ways to run a PTC group, including lecture style, reflections on content, group discussion, working through exercises, Q & A... plus encouraging students to do the online quizzes to revise.

Meeting frequency could be 90min / week for 10 weeks, or 3 hours / fortnight for 5 weeks, or by a weekend intensive.



Here are some ideas for PTC Groups in Churches and Schools...

Ideas for PTC Church Groups

Give your group a special name e.g. 'Sunday afternoon training', 'Word Focus Friday', 'EQUIP', 'TEAM', 'FOCUS', 'TODD (Time Out Digging Deeper) Group' ...

Intersperse with other skills training workshops e.g. evangelism, kids ministry

Create 'PTC scholarships' to help people to study

Encourage leaders to attend

Use with gap year or ministry trainees

Run a related PTC unit alongside your Preaching program

Alternate between overview PTC Units, single bible book PTC Units and topical PTC Units (e.g. Intro to the Bible, Ephesians and Doctrine 1)

Gradually work through the units in each PTC level, but offer foundational units, Introduction to the Bible or Promise to Fulfilment, more frequently. This will allow new group members to 'catch up'

Invite other like-minded churches in your area to run PTC Groups together

Ideas for PTC School Groups

Spend 10-12 minutes doing the quizzes during class time (either on individual laptops or project a quiz onto the screen and do it together).

Can set the quizzes as homework.

Make tests out of the online quiz questions after each group of 3 studies, to see how the students are going along the way. These can go along with their exam mark towards their final grade.

Use quiz-making apps like Cahoots and Socrative to display selected PTC quiz questions.

Add Bible Project videos or YouTube resources such as Max McLean's on-stage solo recital of Mark's Gospel.

Be interactive, look things up, discussion questions. E.g. Look up meaning of words e.g. "prodigal" and evaluate headings that have been added to the bible e.g. "The prodigal son".

Show the relevance and significance of what the students are learning.

Offer PTC to Christian staff as professional development.

Run a group with staff to trial a new PTC unit.

PTC is a major part of a Stage 6 NESA endorsed subject that our school runs. It is an elective Christian Development extension subject worth 1 unit. We re-apply every 5 years – Colin (William Clarke College, NSW)

I think PTC is a brilliant way to start students off on an excellent theological certificate they can pursue beyond school. I have also done it with staff members, which is awesome training for teachers in Christian schools – Michelle (Providence Christian College, WA)

How to Register Group Members

Method 1 – Self-registration is easiest if group members can register and pay for themselves online using the [Online PTC Registration Form](#). They just need to know which PTC unit and exam format the group will do.

Method 2 - A Group Leader or Co-ordinating Teacher can facilitate the enrolment of group members (e.g. School Groups). In this case, the leader needs to enter contact details, select PTC unit, enrolment Start Date and exam format, order books via the downloadable Group Registration Form. You will also organize payment and distribute any ordered books.

- New groups - Download a Group Enrolment Form from the PTC webpage: www.moore.edu.au/ptc
Continuing groups – Pre-Filled forms are available from ptc@moore.edu.au
- Email completed form to ptc@moore.edu.au and arrange payment
- Moore PTC staff will enrol the Group and send a receipt/invoice and books (if these were ordered)
- Each Group Member receives a Student ID and Password to access PTC Online.
- The Group commences studying!

Next steps

Read more about the PTC on the PTC webpage: www.moore.edu.au/ptc

If you are considering starting a PTC Group but are not sure, why not get a taster by getting a PTC Subscription for yourself. This will give you one year of non-enrolled online access to all online PTC units.

Gather your Group

Choose which registration method you will use. **Method 1** is simplest (if people can register themselves).

Further enquiries contact ptc@moore.edu.au or 02 9577 9911.

You can order books by contacting ptc@moore.edu.au or 02 9577 9911. A postage discount will apply when more than 5 books are ordered.

