

Pillar Jax Deploying Well Ministry Overview

Written June 2020

Guiding Passages

James 1:27- The families of deployed servicemembers have similar challenges (albeit temporary) to widows and orphans.

Hebrews 10:34 and 13:3- Deployed servicemembers have similar challenges (albeit temporary) to those who are in prison.

Ephesians 6:10-20- Deployments are ripe for spiritual battle and battle take preparation and support.

Overall Goals

Pre-Deployment-	Prepare the service member and his/her family spiritually for deployment. Learn how the church can best support them during deployment.
Deployment-	Love one another through the unique challenges of deployment. Help all families thrive spiritually in this season- not merely survive.
Post-Deployment-	Re-unify as a family stronger spiritually than it was pre-deployment. Immediately pour back into those in pre-deployment and deployment seasons.

Method

Peer Based Support Group- The group will include people in all of the above seasons of the deployment cycle from ~90 days pre-deployment, deployment, and ~90 post deployment. For group participants who commit to this group (on an average deployment) this will be approximately a one-year commitment.

Facilitated By an Experienced Couple- The group is led by an experienced couple. The husband should be approved by the elders as an experienced group leader able to rightly divide the Word of God and shepherd a small group. The wife should be gifted in hospitality and able to teach younger women in a Titus 2 fashion. Ideally, this couple has experienced military deployments themselves.

Community Group-type Format- While all the participants are in a similar life-season, the format of the weekly group will typically look like any other community group. Group participants therefore may or may not choose to remain a part of another community group.

Perpetual Meetings- This group does NOT take weeks off- it meets perpetually. The most difficult seasons during deployment are often holidays and times that groups may be tempted to take off. This group will not take weeks off.

Roles and Responsibilities

Leader- Leads the Group each week. He will vary between providing pre-deployment training, post-deployment training, and a typical community group (Bible devotional/discussion, singing, etc.) based on the needs of the group.

Hostess- Provides the home and the meal for all meetings. There is NO expectation of group members to bring anything to the group. Therefore the hostess provides the entirety of the meal and items needed to host the group.

Substitute Couples- Fill the roles of the above when the Leader and Hostess are unavailable. These couples serve an invaluable role since this group will not take breaks. They are invited to attend and help in the weeks the main couple is hosting.

Tracking

Church Members Deployed

Church Members Who Actively Participate in This Group

Non-Members Who Actively Participate in This Group

Elder Touch Points

Leader & Hostess- Approved by the elders.

Lay Leaders- Approved by the elders