



Why do we 'do' small groups as a church?

Basically, 'small groups' are the Biblical model for discipleship, as established by the early Church and documented in the book of Acts. Additionally, when we 'do life' together with others, we create relationships where we can transparently be known and know others. As we develop these 'safe' friendships, we encourage one another in our pursuit of God's plan for our lives.

What is our church wide vision for small groups?

A small group is a group of 3 or more people that gather together and engage in activities to help the group members connect, grow, serve, pray and give - the five essential behaviors of a believer in Christ. By establishing "elements" of small groups instead of defining an ideal "model", we empower group leaders and members to design their groups in a true "as we go" nature while creating opportunities for each person to contribute his/her unique gifts.

What should my small group look like?

Most groups are organized according to the leader's life stage - single, married, young adults, mature couples, etc. Each small group will be as unique as the leader and members themselves. Some groups meet in coffee shops to discuss devotionals. Others meet for breakfast on the weekends and then golf or cycle together. Many family small groups meet in the members' homes for fellowship and study, then plan monthly activities based on their interests.

Is there anyone to help me as I lead my group?

Our goal is for each leader to be connected to a small group coach that serves as a 'lifeline' and advisor. Sometimes a Coach is one of the Pastors at our church, or another experienced small group leader. Regardless, we encourage our small group leaders to pursue these coaching relationships by making themselves available and seeking the coach's time and experience.

What resources are available to help my group connect, grow serve, pray and give together?

A great tool for leaders is our "Small Group Spiritual Health Assessment" that is available on our small groups website. This tool helps leaders and members identify their needed 'next steps' in their walk with Christ. Included in the assessment download packet are lists of ideas for next steps in each of these five spiritual areas.

How can I find a curriculum for my group to study?

We offer many great tools for choosing a spiritual growth component for your group. You will find a list of recommended studies on our small groups website, which will include suggestions for book studies, weekly devotions and online streaming resources. We recommend completing a Small Group Spiritual Health Assessment to assist you in choosing the best study component for your group.

How will I find members for my group?

The absolute best way to fill your group is to invite friends that you already have - from work, school or within your community. As the leader, you are the single best person to fill your group roster. To help you, we offer several advertising methods for groups, including our online search portal and some weekend printed materials.