

Small Group Dynamics

The first meeting is all about starting to get to know one another. The facilitator will ask “icebreaker” type questions and have each participant share some basic biographical information.

Then the facilitator will share one person, experience/event or place that has significantly influenced the direction of their life. Each participant will then do the same. As the group continues to meet weekly, the facilitator is encouraged to have an occasional “hangout” night where the participants can engage in casual conversations and enjoy a snack or meal together.

For the majority of the group meetings, we use a simple repeatable process called the *Discovery Process* (see opposing page). It helps us get to know each other and prompts us to read & obey the Bible together. Following the facilitator’s example, each participant will follow the process to guide future group meetings.

Our groups use Bible passages applicable to the Sunday topic, Marriage, Parenting or one of the *7 Journeys* (see opposing page).

Groups start throughout the year and meet for approximately 8 to 9 weeks. Some groups will continue beyond the 8-9 weeks if the facilitator and participants desire to keep meeting.

*Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.
Hebrews 10:24 & 25 (NLT)*

Discovery Process

- 1.* How did you do with what you learned last week?
2. What are you thankful for?
3. What is the biggest challenge you are facing today?
4. Do you know someone you could serve this week?
5. What is God saying? (read and discuss a Bible passage)
6. If this is God speaking, what will you do about it?
7. With whom will you share what you learned this week?

** (only done on 3rd and subsequent meetings)*

7 Journeys

Trust
moving from earner to heir

Obey
moving from self-hearted to soft-hearted

Share
moving from receiver to giver

Relate
moving from isolation to community

Serve
moving from consumer to producer

Give
moving from charitable to extravagant

Disciple
moving from traveler to guide

Be sure to pick up an *Engage the 7 Journeys* booklet at the Information Center in the lobby for a short description of each Journey and applicable Bible passages.