



Further Thought

Groups should begin this week. Use the information below to get ready for a healthy group experience.

Getting Started

Small Groups: Our Basic Purpose

Small groups exist to promote the development of significant Christian relationships centered around the study of God's word and reaching out to the community. (See Hebrews 10:24-25)

Sharing

Each week, we will take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include some planned activities and questions. After the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as our group feels safer and more comfortable together.

Study

Each week we'll study a portion of God's Word that relates to the previous week's sermon. Our goal is to learn how to apply and live out our Christianity in our day-to-day experiences and relationships.

Support

Each week, we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (see John 15:9-13). This care will take many forms, such as praying, listening, meeting needs, encouraging and even challenging one another as needed.

Serve

Each semester every group will choose and execute one service project in our community. This will be chosen by the group and be the sole responsibility of the group from beginning to end. The purpose of this is to make an impact in the community for Christ and encourage us in the fact that our faith is designed to be shared not kept for ourselves.

Five Marks of a Healthy Group

For our group to be healthy we need to:

1. focus on spiritual growth as a top priority (Psalm 119:57-60);
2. accept one another in love just as Christ has accepted us (Romans 15:7);
3. take care of one another in love without crossing over the line into parenting or taking responsibility for solving the problems of others (John 13:34);
4. treat one another with respect in both speech and action (Ephesians 4:25-5:2);
5. keep our commitments to the group- including attending regularly, doing "group notes" before getting to group, and keeping confidences whenever requested (Psalm 15:1-2, 4b).

Where and When

Work through this section together with your group to make sure everyone is on the same page.

Where: _____

When (day of the week): _____

Time: _____

Leader's Contact Info: _____
