

What is a Journey small group?

A group is typically made up of about 8-12 people who meet weekly to share, study and support one another. There is a trained leader for each group. An average meeting lasts for about an hour and a half.

How important are small groups?

At Journey Church, we don't want to be a church *with* small groups, but a church *of* small groups. They are the place where the real ministry of the church takes place as we study God's Word, while supporting and sharing our lives with one another. We believe that meeting together on a regular basis is time well spent. Our goal each year is to have 80% of our adults involved on a weekly basis.

When and where do they meet?

Groups meet on various days and locations throughout the week. Most groups meet in the evening and begin at 6 or 7pm. Daytime groups meeting times will vary.

How long do they last?

Each group season lasts 10-12 weeks. We have a Fall, Winter and Spring season. There will be a 4-6 week break between seasons and at the end of each season people will have the chance to sign up for the same group if it is continuing, trying a new group or even taking a break.

What is the required commitment?

Joining a group requires a commitment to attend weekly for the 10-12 week season. Obviously, allowances are made for sickness, vacation, work conflicts and other special events, but not much more. This commitment is the key to a strong group.

What will we study?

Group discussions will be based on the previous Sunday's message. Each week we will supply the groups with a discussion guide, which will give groups some additional scriptures and questions to reflect on. Imagine the weekend message as a lecture on Christian living, and the small group as a lab where you get to roll up your sleeves and discuss how the weekend's message works in real life.

What kind of groups are offered?

We try to make the groups as varied as we are, so that whatever the age, location, or stage of life, you'll be able to find a group that is just right for you. You have the first two weeks to attend the group to make sure the group is a good fit for you. If you determine that it's not, we completely understand. We will gladly help you find a different group that you will enjoy!

What about child care?

This is left up to each leader. The groups with no childcare are adults only. Some groups will provide a babysitter for the group. Others will rely on the parents within

the group to watch the kids each week, normally on a rotating basis. There may also be groups that will allow kids to be part of the group discussion if they would like.

Please keep in mind that there is no perfect solution to the childcare issue because each person or couple has different needs. Therefore, if you have children that you need to bring to group, be sure to find a group that fits your child's needs.