

## Frequently Asked Questions about Life Groups

### What is a Life Group?

A life group is 8 to 12 people who gather weekly, outside of the Sunday gatherings, to encourage, challenge and care for one another to become the disciple Jesus has designed them to become.

### Why Life Groups?

Simply put, “we need one another.” God made us that way. He designed us to be His agents to encourage, challenge, and care for one another. “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this, all men will know that you are my disciples if you love one another.” (John 13:34-35)

### Why do I need to be part of a Life Group?

We are not meant to live life alone. God has designed us to live in community with others. Relationships form out of shared experiences: meals together, conversations, adventures, serving others together, being there for each other when a need arises and creating memories together. As we follow Christ TOGETHER ‘iron sharpens iron’ friendships emerge, and true discipleship takes place.

*“It is in small groups that people can get close enough to know each other, to care and share, to challenge and support, to confide and confess, to forgive and be forgiven, to laugh and weep together, to be accountable to each other, to watch over each other and to grow together. Personal growth does not happen in isolation. It is the result of interactive relationships. Small groups are God's gift to foster changes in character and spiritual growth.”* Dr. Bilezikian

### When and where do Life Groups meet?

Life Groups meet at a time and place that is convenient for the group. Often the group will meet at the leader’s home. Other times the group may meet in a group member’s home. Developing significant relationships takes time and consistency — that’s why we encourage groups to meet every week.

### What happens at a Life Group meeting?

It depends on the group, but most include food, support, prayer, Bible discussion and volunteering to serve together. We want everyone to be involved in a Life Group because it is the best way for you to continue becoming the disciple you want to become, and that Jesus wants you to become.

### What about childcare?

Each group will need to work out childcare, either as a group or individually. Some groups have members who share the responsibility of watching the kids, split the cost for a sitter, or make other arrangements.

### What is the life expectancy of a Life Group?

Every group will be different. Every Life Group “quarter” lasts between 8-10 weeks. Some groups will only meet for the “quarter.” As relationships form, some groups choose to stay together for consecutive quarters.

### What do Life Groups discuss or study together?

Initially, the groups will focus on the Sunday morning teaching – “How’s your soul?” In the following quarters, different groups will focus on different areas. (Parenting, marriage, finances, spiritual gifts, prayer, etc.)

### What about leading a Life Group?

Leading a Life Group isn’t about being perfect, knowing it all, having it all together. Leading a Life Group is about serving others by giving them a place to connect.