

**Make friends.  
Make disciples.  
Make a difference.**



Small Groups are where we get connected to community, grow together as we seek Jesus, and impact the world around us.



## **WHAT ARE SMALL GROUPS**

Small Groups are where life happens at Fellowship. It's where we really get to know people and invest in one another's lives. It's where we intentionally give and receive spiritual encouragement. It's where we connect with other believers for Bible study, prayer and friendship.

If you are not connected to a Small Group, the church may feel like an event you attend rather than a community that you are part of. Once you are connected and part of a group, and once you have served side-by-side in ministry and mission with a small group of people, the church becomes a place in the centre of your life.

*Don't miss out on the opportunity to be connected with other believers in life-changing ways.*

For more information about Small Groups or to be placed in a Small Group contact Pastor Jon at:

[jon@fellowship-church.ca](mailto:jon@fellowship-church.ca)

516-633-4422

## **WHY ARE SMALL GROUPS IMPORTANT**

Making disciples is what Christ commands us to do (Matt. 28:19-20) and disciple making happens best in the context of relationships.

On a Sunday morning it is difficult to form deep friendships or to be challenged by another believer who knows you and wants God's best for you – you are not likely to stumble into deep connection there.

We grow in Christ as we work out and live out our faith in gospel centred community. As a church, we have found that the best way we can help you go deeper with fewer people is to facilitate groups. Small groups are a place where community can form outside of a Sunday service.

## **WHAT HAPPENS AT A SMALL GROUP MEETING**

Small Groups are made up of men and women from all generations of life that meet for two hours twice a month. No group is perfect and no two groups are exactly the same but they will all have a time of prayer, fellowship, care, and study.

## **PLAYING YOUR PART AS A SMALL GROUP MEMBER**

As a member of a Small Group there is a very important role for you to play.

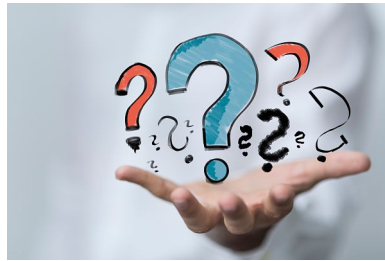
- **Your Presence is Needed** – your small group needs you to build into them and so commit to be present at all group meetings
- **Work Out Your Faith** – ask questions and be willing to answer questions asked of you
- **Live Out Your Faith** – look for opportunities to put into practice the one another statements found in scripture
- **Pray and Care** – pray for other members of the group throughout the week and reach out to those that have physical or spiritual needs
- **Total and Complete Confidentiality** – what you hear, see and say in Small Group stays in Small Group
- **Come Prepared** – come ready to study and talk about the Small Group material
- **Serve** – Small Groups is not just about our own growth in Christ but also about reaching out to our local community and the world with the gospel.



## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **How do I become part of a group?**

There are three times during the year that Small Groups welcome new members. Let Pastor Jon or the office know you are wanting to be part of a group and we will connect you with a leader.



### **How long do groups last?**

Small Groups run on a three semester basis. Groups kick off in the fall, take a break during December, March and the summer.

### **What about childcare?**

Some groups provide child care (individual parents contribute to the cost) and other groups meet without children present.

### **Are teens invited?**

Yes, students starting in grade 9 are encouraged to play an active role in Small Groups.

### **What do the groups study?**

The leaders of the group are given freedom to choose from staff directed or approved Bible study material. Groups may also discuss questions about current sermon series.

### **How much Bible knowledge do I need?**

None. A small group is a safe place for individuals to learn and grow together through group discussion. People are at various points in their relationship with God and knowledge of the Bible, and we believe that is what makes the time together rich and enjoyable for all.

### **Do we have to bring food to meetings?**

Depends on the group - some groups make it their regular habit to share snacks or a meal.