

Life Groups • FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a Life Group?

A Life Group is five to twelve people who gather regularly to encourage, challenge and care for one another for the purpose of becoming more like Christ in all of life.

Why is it good for me to be part of a Life Group?

Simply put, “we need one another.” God designed us to be His personal agents in each other’s lives.

“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)

How do Life Groups form?

1. Through Communities that meet on Sunday mornings at Grace. Visit grace360.org/communities to learn more about the nine Communities for adults based on life stages and interest groups that Grace offers.
2. Groups of friends decide to start meeting more formally and contact the church to tell us that they’d like to be an official Life Group.
3. Email lifegroups@grace360.org to let us know that you are looking for a Life Group, and we will do our best to connect you with one.

What’s the difference between Life Groups and Communities?

Communities are larger, Sunday morning gatherings where anyone can participate any week. They are great places to meet people with whom you may want to be in a consistent, small group to form deeper relationships and influence each other to become more like Christ in all of life.

When and where do Life Groups meet?

They meet at a time and place that is convenient for the whole group and most often in homes. Groups typically meet weekly or biweekly and for one or two hours.

What if I need childcare?

If childcare is a financial barrier to being part of a Life Group, the church will reimburse individual families at a predetermined rate. Please email lifegroups@grace360.org to learn more.

What do Life Groups discuss or study together?

All Life Groups begin with an eight-week study designed to help participants get to know each other and to create shared expectations for being in a small group together. After that, groups are encouraged to follow the sermon discussion questions provided. When sermon questions are not available, groups can choose from a number of recommended studies, take a break from a formal study or choose their own study.

What is the life expectancy of a Life Group?

After the initial eight-week study, it’s encouraged to give everyone a guilt-free “out.” After that, we encourage those who wish to continue meeting regularly to agree on a set period of time, such as a school year or calendar year. At that point, many groups recommit for another year, add new members or have a few people leave the group. It’s OK for there to be transition. For groups that become larger than 12, we encourage them to split into two groups.

What is the role of a Life Group leader?

Life group leaders are responsible for providing their groups with vision, direction and support. They do not need to be Bible experts or teachers. Leaders are successful when they are personally growing in their relationship with God and encouraging community within the group.

What are the qualifications to become a Life Group leader?

- Be a disciple, becoming more like Christ in all of life
- Be relationally focused, having social skills and emotional intelligence
- Recognize the Bible as the authority in their lives
- Have previous Life Group participation (preferably)
- Be a member of the Grace Covenant Church
- Have the time, emotional capacity and moral discernment to lead a group

Have additional questions?

Please email lifegroups@grace360.org.