

GROW: The Protection of Community Acts 2:42-47

Believing that we exist to help people encounter Jesus and experience life change, we have core values that become the filter through which we evaluate, plan, and carry out our ministry.

People encounter Jesus and are changed when they **connect** to Him and His Church!

People encounter Jesus and are changed when they **grow** in spiritual maturity!

People encounter Jesus and are changed when they **serve**.

How do we help people grow?

We believe that every person needs to CONNECT with other Christians in small group Bible study.

Life Groups:

Weekly groups that balance biblical content and community (Sunday morning).

Equip Groups:

Short-term courses designed to strengthen your Christian walk

- **Fall and Spring Semester on Wednesday nights**
- **Two 8 week sessions each semester**

D-Groups:

3-5 believers of the same gender focused on making disciples who make disciples.

I. WHY SHOULD I BE INVOLVED IN A SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY?

There is theological and historical basis for small group ministry in the local church.

- **Theological – a covenant community. (See Exodus 24:1-8; Luke 22:14-20)**
- **Historical – a clear example**
 1. **The ministry of Jesus**
 2. **The model of the early church**

II. What can I expect when I get involved in a small group?

- Pattern (Acts 2:42)
- Purpose (Acts 2:42-47)
 1. equipped in sound doctrine - didache
 2. growing in godly character – “a sense of awe”
 3. developing authentic community relationships
 4. involved in practical service/ministry
 5. reaching individuals for Christ