Small Group Agenda

Week of September 27th, 2026

Small groups exist to facilitate meaningful friendship, intentional discipleship, and biblical community. In order to help believers be the disciples God has called them to be.

GOALS OF THE MEETING

- Discuss the Bible study topic
- Pray for the building of relationships and spiritual growth of the group

ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE FIRST MEETING

- Remember to pray for the members of your group during the week and before the meeting. It would be a good idea to keep track of prayer requests.
- Have a conversation with your host to evaluate how the meetings are going… What needs to change? What can be improved? What are your grateful for?
- Dessert plans decided with host

CONTACT YOUR GROUP IN ADVANCE

- Contact all members before the meeting to remind them about the meeting.
- Check your rosters online

A) Sharing (10 min)

Remember that the purpose of this time is to connect with each other. It is your opportunity to learn something new about the members of your group.

- Share: Give each person in the meeting an opportunity to share the most wonderful journey they ever made with a very close friend (or with your spouse). Share the place and why it was so wonderful.

Sharing guidelines – Explain the purpose of sharing exercises: Getting to know one another casually (new groups) or reacquainting with each other (continuing groups)

B) Worship (optional) (10 min)

Read Psalm 2

Ask two or three members of your small group to praise God following the themes of this passage.

C) Discussion / Sharing time (30 min)

Times are Changing: John the Baptist Heralded a New Era.

Begin by reading Luke 7:24-35 aloud then, answer together the following questions.

1. **What qualities do you tend to admire in spiritual leaders? How does Jesus' description of John challenge the importance we sometimes give to popularity, appearance, comfort, or social standing? (Verses 24–27)**
2. **Jesus highlights the remarkable privilege of belonging to God's kingdom. How should receiving that gift shape our gratitude and humility? What difference could a deeper appreciation of this privilege make in your everyday life? (Verse 28)**
3. **Some people acknowledged that God's way was right and received John's baptism. What helps you respond humbly when God's Word reveals something that needs to change? Can you share an experience when admitting your need became an important step toward growth? (Verse 29)**
4. **The religious experts knew the Scriptures yet resisted God's purpose for them. How can religious knowledge or experience make us less willing to recognize our own need for repentance? What helps you remain teachable? (Verse 30)**
5. **Jesus compares his generation to children who insist that others respond on their terms. Where are you tempted to receive God's Word only when it fits**

your expectations? What would it look like to let Scripture correct those expectations? (Verses 31–32)

6. John and Jesus were criticized for opposite ways of living. What does this reveal about the resistance they encountered? How can we recognize when our criticism is becoming a way of avoiding something God is calling us to change? (Verses 33–34)

7. Jesus was criticized for being a friend of tax collectors and sinners. How does his willingness to draw near to people challenge the boundaries we sometimes place around our relationships? Who might our group be overlooking or keeping at a distance? (Verse 34)

8. Jesus says that wisdom is proved right by her children. What evidence of God's wisdom would you hope to see in the lives of people who receive his message? Where have you already seen his grace producing humility, repentance, love, or obedience in your own life? (Verse 35)

9. What is one specific response you want to make to this passage during the coming week? It might involve acknowledging a sin, receiving correction, obeying something you already understand, or welcoming someone you have overlooked. How can this group pray for and support you?

D) Prayer (10 min)

Close by thanking God for his grace and asking him for humble hearts that receive his Word and respond with faith.

Pray for any need presented by the members.