

Life group FAQ's

1. How is this different than a Bible Study?

The short answer is that a Bible Study is a deep dive into the head knowledge of the Bible, whereas Life Group is a deep dive into the *heart* knowledge of God's word. Bible Study is cerebral in nature and typically takes place in a classroom setting, it's a teacher/student atmosphere. Life group is relational in nature and typically takes place in the homes of our Life Group leaders and while there is no "teacher" in Life Groups there is an intentional leader. Here at Southeast, all our Life Groups consist of five major components. 1) Biblical Foundation. 2) Intentional Leadership. 3) Relational Environment 4) Reproducible Process & 5) Churchwide Alignment. (CB)

2. I'm already in a bible study, why do I need to be in another thing?

See the answer to question one for more context. In addition to that, we are hardwired for relationship. God himself is relational in nature. He is 3 in 1. He is also the Creator who has eternally fought to have a relationship with His creation... us. That all said, we believe there is a Biblical foundation for relationship. We also believe that happens best in Life Groups where there is an intentional pursuit and a heavy emphasis of a heart relationship with God and with others as Jesus states in Mat. 22:37. We need relationship. How else can we experience and live out the fruit of the spirit? They are all things that happen within the context of relationship. (CB)

3. What can I expect?

A warm, friendly and welcoming atmosphere that consists of normal, everyday people, simply seeking to grow in relationship with both God and others. (CB)

4. What is expected of me?

Life Group is a great place to mature as a disciple of Jesus. That said, you'll get out of Life Group what you put in but let's start with simply showing up, bringing your truest self and participating when you feel comfortable to do so. (CB)

5. How many people are in a life group?

Our Life Groups consist of anywhere between 6 to 14 people. (CB)

6. Do I have to be with people my own age?

We want to help you find your fit. We have a variety of demographics for you to choose from. The first place to start would be by searching our Life Groups on our website and selecting the "Group Type" box in the search criteria which will then display all the age demographics for our Life Groups. (CB)

7. How often do life groups meet?

Here at Southeast, we encourage our Life Groups to meet weekly. We have found that this frequency is the most conducive to fostering the types of relationships we are looking for our groups to develop. (CB)

8. Is childcare available?

Each Life Group is different. We allow each Life Group Leader to determine whether their group will be able offer childcare. The first place to start would be by searching our Life Groups on our website and selecting the Children Welcome box in the search criteria. This will only allow you to see Life Groups that offer some type of childcare. For more details regarding that group's childcare, you will need to contact the Life Group leader who will then discuss the specifics for their group. (CB)

9. What do I need to bring?

We suggest that you need only bring your truest self and perhaps a Bible if you have one. (CB)

10. Do I have to be well-versed in scripture to attend?

Absolutely not. Every Life Groups is made up of people at various stages of their walk with the Lord and the goal of Life Group is to seek spiritual maturity in a relational environment. (CB)

11. What if I am single?

Individuals who are single are more than welcome in every type of group that we have. For instance, you could be single and attend a Life Group that has a majority of married couples, as well as some single people, divorced people and/or widowed people. It really depends on your preference and comfort level. Other options would be to attend a gender exclusive group, meaning all males or females. (CB)

12. Where do life groups meet?

Life Groups can meet in a few different places depending upon the needs, desires and dynamics of each group. Most will typically meet in the homes of the Life Group leaders or a member of the group who has offered up their home as a host home. Other groups will meet exclusively online via Zoom. Some groups could be a hybrid of the previous two. Finally, during COVID, we are allowing some groups to meet here on campus at the church in order to remain social distant however, this is only for a specified amount of time and they will resume in home or online meetings in the future. (CB)

13. Why is it important for me to be a part of a life group?

14. Who leads life groups?

15. What if I join a group and it's not a good fit?

No problem! Our Life Groups pastors will help you keep searching until you've found the group that God has for you. (CB)

16. Does a person have to be a part of this church or even a Christian to be in a life group?

No. Non-church members and/or non-Christians are welcomed to visit, attend or join any of our Life Groups. (CB)

- A Life Group Pastor would love to discuss these topics and any other concerns you might have regarding Life Groups. Please contact us directly at the church offices Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8 am and 4 pm to chat.