



PFBC MEN'S MINISTRY

## MEN'S SMALL GROUPS

### What is a Men's Small Group?

A Men's Small Group is a group of 3 to 5 men who build trusting relationships with each other, study God's Word, and hold one another accountable for the purpose of becoming a more fully-devoted disciple of Jesus Christ. The small group meets once a week to share and study God's word, while supporting, sharing, and praying for one another throughout the week.

### What is the purpose and benefit of joining a Men's Small Group?

The main purpose of men's small groups is to become a more devoted disciple of Jesus Christ. If we believe in our hearts and confess that Jesus is Lord we are called Christians. However, Jesus asks us to do more than just believe – He asks us to follow him. Greg Ogden in his book *Discipleship Essentials* writes, "Being a Christian is a statement about what Christ has done for me; being a disciple is a statement about what I am doing for Christ." *Luke 9:23* "And he [Jesus] said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."" *ESV*



### What are the benefits of joining a Men's Small Group?

- 1. Accountability** – The number one benefit to men's small groups is accountability; building trusting, loving, and transparent relationships with each other where men can be open to share their struggles, temptations, and triumphs, and to share how God is working in their life. Becoming a fully-devoted disciple of Christ can be a difficult task especially if we attempt it alone. As brothers we need to band together as we persevere and run the race. *Galatians 6:2* "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." *ESV*
- 2. Prayer** – Sharing prayer requests and committing to regular prayer on behalf of the brothers in your group is an important element for small groups. *James 5:16* "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed." *ESV*
- 3. Studying God's Word** – Another great benefit is digging deeper into God's Word together via the small group study materials in order to deepen your walk with God and equip you in life's challenges. *2Timothy 3: 16,17* "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." *ESV*

### Who is this for?

The Men's Small Group ministry is for men who have a desire to become a more dedicated and committed disciple of Jesus; and who understand the challenges that men are faced with when making such a commitment. Men often experience unique challenges and stumbling blocks as they strive to grow in their faith – many of which remain silent struggles. This group is intended to create dialogue and mutual identification of those concerns in order to strengthen our convictions and grow into mature disciples.

## What is the required commitment?

1. Commit to becoming a fully-devoted disciple of Jesus Christ.
2. Commit to accountability - being open and honest with the men in your group as you bear one another's burdens.
3. Commit to one another in supporting and praying for one another daily.
4. Commit yourself to completing the weekly study material.
5. Commit yourself to attending your weekly small group study session (1-1½ hours).

## Men's Small Group Guidelines

**Commitment** – In order to reap the full benefits of your men's small group, each individual needs to commit to making the small group a success. This is done by committing to completing the study material and attending the weekly meeting; but even more importantly it is a commitment to encourage and support one another as you live as followers of Christ. In essence you are committing to growing your faith and to being accountable to the group; it is a commitment to God, to yourself, and to your small group.

**Weekly Study Session** - Establish the time and place of your weekly meetings and commit to it. Each member will go through the study individually throughout the week. The study session then becomes a time of sharing what God has revealed to you during the week. Spend approximately half of the meeting time in the study and half to sharing and praying in support of one another.

**Daily Support** - Pray for one another daily, and be in contact throughout the week. Accountability works best when members of the group can be available for urgent support and prayer, as well as to share life's triumphs as God works in each one's life. Therefore, determine how your group will stay in contact with each other (I.e. Email, Text, Phone, other communication apps such as Facebook, Blackberry Messenger, What's App, Slack, etc.) Remember, accountability is the number one benefit to small groups, and accountability works best on a daily basis rather than one hour per week..

## Additional Suggestions – Morning Quiet Time



*Enhance your daily walk with God by making a commitment to have daily quiet time each morning. This individual quiet time could include reading a Bible chapter that is mutually agreed upon by the group followed by prayer. Starting your day by seeking God through his Word accompanied with prayer will help set the tone for the remainder of the day. You may also agree to read a 'Verse of the Day' from a popular Bible app, and share a brief thought of what that verse means to you. This could be shared through a text message or an email each morning. This is a way that will connect the group daily and encourage the accountability of morning quiet time.*

If you are interested in joining a mens group or learning more about what this would look like for you, please send an email to [men@parkvillebaptist.org](mailto:men@parkvillebaptist.org) and someone will be in touch with you!