

PA Bible's Small Group Fellowship (SGF) Program

SGFs are structured, regular, meetings of 6-8 members including a leader(s) and host(s) who are overseen by pastoral leadership.

Purpose: SGFs exist to encourage close, meaningful relationships between brothers and sisters in Christ and to promote the spiritual growth and nurturing of all participants. These purposes are achieved through our commitment that SGFs be:

1. Biblically-based
2. Gospel-rich
3. Christ-centered

SGFs offer members the opportunity to live out our shared Christian **values** of loving God and loving others by:

1. Increasing in our relationships with one other and knowledge of the Bible (Acts 2:42-47, 1 Peter 2:2)
2. Bearing each other's burdens (Galatians 6:2), sharing hearts, prayerful together in life's sorrows, and joys (Romans 12:15)
3. Stirring each other up in love and good works (Hebrews 10:24)

In order to achieve our program's purposes, we commit ourselves to these **principles** of Christian conduct:

Love and Hospitality

- All participants (leaders, hosts, members) conduct themselves with love while avoiding obvious causes of stumbling (offenses) to others by imitating Jesus Christ. (Romans 12:10, 1 Thessalonians 2:10, Romans 14)
- Participants should endeavor to be welcoming and friendly as they interact with new and existing members with Christ-imitating love and compassion. (Romans 12:13, 1 Peter 4:9)

Attendance

- Participants are committed to regular attendance in a manner agreed upon within their group and to communicate changes in plans promptly and clearly. (Hebrews 10:25, Psalm 84:10)

Confidentiality

- Participants protect each other's hearts by maintaining confidentiality, expressed in the idea that "what's said in small group, stays in small group." By honoring each member's privacy, we establish strong and mutual trust. (Proverbs 11:13-14)

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Seasonal Schedule

The commitment for each group is for a four-month season. This is designed to be a minimum commitment to encourage the development of strong connections. Each season brings opportunities for rotation between groups so members can make new connections in the church. The seasons are scheduled as follows

- **Spring - February - May**
- **Fall - September - December**

Questions? Needs? Concerns?

If any questions, needs, or concerns arise regarding your SGF please feel free to reach out to Shawn or Sam. As pastors, we pray daily for each of you and meet regularly with all our SGF leaders to ensure that every member is being cared for and shepherded. We are here for you.