

:: Five FAQ's about small groups...

1 What is a small group?

A truly biblical church includes more than just a Sunday service. A small group is an informal gathering, generally in a home, with about 10 to 12 other people. Small groups meet once a week or every other week and share a common purpose—where relationships are developed with God and each other.

2 What happens in a small group?

In a small group, you will experience a safe place where acceptance is found, meaningful relationships are developed, genuine care and support is received and encouragement is given. Together, you put into practice biblical learning, serving and caring for one another, reaching out to others and enjoying life together! Small groups also encourage prayer and accountability that helps each person grow closer to Christ.

3 Why should you be in a small group?

Jesus' involvement in a small group is the most convincing argument for including such groups in the life of our church. Jesus began His earthly ministry by establishing his own "small group," the disciples. Relationships, not organizations, were central in Jesus' method.

The heartbeat of the Christian life is relationships: connecting with God, each other and our community. In fact, that's our mission statement. It's an authentic community where people find real hope in the midst of pain, loss, loneliness, depression, and sin in our lives. God gave us the gift of community to meet our needs. The real need of our culture is to meaningfully connect with a few other people.

4 Are there different kinds of small groups?

At the bridge, there are a variety of small groups for all ages and stages of life — each is different and every group has its own topic and focus. So you are bound to find a group to help with your specific needs and challenges. However, all groups share common characteristics vital to biblical community such as Scripture study, prayer and relational sharing. Likewise, all groups are committed to building one another up and fulfilling each of the five New Testament purposes: worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry and evangelism. The goal is to help every believer live a purpose-driven life!

5 How can I join a small group?

There are two easy ways you can join:

Inform us of your interest in joining a small group by completing a communication card located in the Auditorium or at the Info Centre.

Contact Pastor Pam Moss directly at pmoss@thebridgemarkham.com or 905.294.6716. She will help connect you with a small group that best meets your needs.