

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs) About Starting a Small Group

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## HOW BIG SHOULD MY SMALL GROUP BE?

The average small group size is 8-12 people, but every small group is different. One of the reasons we value co-hosts at New Song, is that they help assure that at least two people will be present at each meeting. *Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am there among them. -Matthew 18:20*

We want group members to feel comfortable in the space you meet. If your group outgrows your meeting space, reach out to your small group coordinator for ideas on how to assure continued connection of all your group members.

## WHEN SHOULD MY SMALL GROUP MEET?

We believe there is a time and place for whatever small group the Lord has put on your heart to host. Weekday evenings after working hours are popular small group meeting times, but there also exist healthy small groups that meet outside of that popular time spot. Talk with your co-host and most importantly, listen to the Holy Spirit as your guide for a time that will reach others well.

## WHERE SHOULD MY SMALL GROUP MEET?

Meeting at a home provides an intimate, comfortable and safe environment for group members to feel more apt to be real and transparent; however, if meeting at a home is not an option for you and your co-host, any space (coffee house, park, etc.) that allows your group to connect well and stay safe is a great space.

## HOW OFTEN SHOULD MY SMALL GROUP MEET?

New Song small groups are expected to meet a minimum of once monthly. We deeply encourage you and your co-host to up this frequency to every other week or even weekly, as you are able.

Consistency in frequency is crucial to assuring people keep coming to your small group. If you can create a good routine of meeting more regularly than once monthly, we believe you will develop a powerful Kingdom community within your small group.

## HOW LONG SHOULD EACH SMALL GROUP MEETING LAST?

We recommend that each group meeting last no longer than 1.5 hours. If a meeting runs long, be sure to value your group members' time by announcing that you recognize the set time has been met and that they are not expected to stay later.

## WHAT IF I CAN'T ANSWER A QUESTION IN MY SMALL GROUP?

As a host, it is important to remember that you are a facilitator not an answer machine. We do not expect you to have all the answers, and you shouldn't either.

In circumstances where you are not sure of an answer, work with your group members towards finding one in scripture.

At New Song we believe, "If it matters to you, it matters to God." Encourage the group member to pray over the question through the week as you do the same. We serve a God that longs to speak with us, sometimes we just need to listen.

If a question or circumstance arises that you think needs attention from New Song pastoral staff, please contact your small group coordinator.