

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ABOUT 1 JOHN D (DISCUSSION) GROUPS

“We live to glorify God as a Biblical community growing in the grace and truth of Jesus Christ”

What are “1 John D Groups”?

They’re small groups of 8-14 adults NOT already part of a Community Group that will meet weekly to discuss 1 John. D Groups will commit to meeting at least six weeks beginning January 13.

- Our 1 John sermon series called *Confidence in the Chaos* will run for 13 weeks - Jan 13-April 7. You’ll have the opportunity to commit to a D Group six weeks at a time and step out when you want - no strings attached.
- D Groups can meet anytime Monday-Saturday and anywhere that works - in homes, restaurants, or businesses or at one of the Hopevale campuses.
- All D Groups - and Community Groups - will use our *1 John Journal* for the series. You can pick up a journal at one of our worship services on Sunday, Jan 6 or 13.

Who will lead D Groups?

1 John D Groups will be led by a facilitator who is:

- a member or regular attendee of Hopevale
- a believer in Jesus Christ
- willing to have a background check (if one is not on file already)
- willing to lead a D Group for at least six (6) weeks

Interested in facilitating a D Group for people in your area! Talk with your CG Leader (if you’re part of a Community Group), and get more information at hopevale.org/dgroups or at the Info Desk.

How do I join a D Group?

You can join a D Group in one of three ways:

- Fill out a signup form to let us know who you are and when you can meet with others.
- Use Find-a-Group on the Hopevale app or website to find a D Group that fits your schedule.
- Respond to an invite from another person.

What will happen at D Groups meetings?

D Groups will meet once a week for about 70 minutes throughout the 1 John message series.

- First six weeks: Jan 13 – Feb 17
- Half-Time Sunday - Feb 24
- Second six weeks: March 3 – April 7

Meetings will go something like this:

- Welcome (10 min)
- Warm-up [ice breaker] (15 min)
- Word [*Journal* DISCUSS questions] (35 min)
- Worship [prayer] (10 min)

Tell me more about the 1 John Journal!

We created the *1 John Journal* just for this message series and just for you! You can pick up a *Journal* at a worship service on Sunday, Jan 6 or 13 in the lobby. The *Journal* will guide you each week to LISTEN to, READ, REFLECT on, RESPOND to, and DISCUSS the key verses for that week. The *Journal* will replace our *Connections* study guide for this message series.

How do D Groups compare with Community Groups?

- D Groups will meet every week for six weeks at a time and conclude the week of April 7. (D Groups will have the option to transition into a regular Community Group). They provide a “taste” of Community Groups, but are not the same as a Community Group.
- Community Groups are *ongoing* groups of 8-14 people that pursue connection, spiritual growth and church and community service together. CGs are centers of church life at Hopevale.
- Community Groups can/will continue to function as they normally do, but do have the option to meet weekly for the 1 John series - if they don't already.**

**NOTE: Groups with childcare must consult with Sarah Burke if they desire to change their meeting schedule for the study.

Why D Groups?

Hands down, connecting and talking with others about God's Word is one of the best ways for you to grow in Christ in real, everyday ways! About half of adults at Hopevale have not yet joined a Community Group. D Groups give every man and woman at Hopevale the opportunity to see what groups at Hopevale are all about. You can try it with no strings attached! If you want, you can continue with an ongoing Community Group.

Can a CG Leader also facilitate a D Group?

Yes, as long as you can do both well. But why not recruit others in your group to facilitate a D Group and encourage and coach them?!

If some of CG members step up to facilitate a D Group, should they also continue to go to our Community Group meetings?

If they can. Encourage them to take the faith-stretching step of facilitating a D Group – and potentially going on to lead their own Community Group. Let them fly from your nest! That's the mission of Jesus!

Why all this focus on one sermon series?

To fulfill Jesus' mission of making disciples! We're praying and preparing for opportunities for men and women to:

- Understand and respond to the gospel
- Experience break-through and life-change regarding sin, the gospel, Jesus, and false teaching
- Connect more specifically and more deeply to Jesus' mission in our community and the world
- Experience a taste of group life and encouragement to continue as or with an ongoing group