

COVENANT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

G2:FAQ'S

What is a Growth Group?

A Growth Group is a home fellowship made up of 4 - 12 people who meet weekly to share, study and support one another. A leader and host lead each group. An average meeting lasts for an hour and a half, followed by light refreshments.

How important are Growth Groups (G2)?

Here at Covenant, Growth Groups are the hub of our ministry. They're the place where the ministry of the church takes place as we study God's Word, while supporting and sharing our lives with one another. We believe that meeting together on a regular basis is time well spent. Our goal each year is to have 80% of our adults involved on a weekly basis.

When and where do they meet?

Growth Groups (G2) meet on various nights of the week in homes throughout The Dalles and beyond. Most evening groups meet 6:30 to 8:00pm.

How long do they last?

Each G2 session is a ten week commitment to attend weekly meetings and do a little homework. Obviously, allowances are made for sickness, vacation, work conflicts and other special events, but not much more. This commitment is the key to a strong Growth Group. You have the first three weeks to attend the group to make sure it's a good fit for you.

What will we study?

Most of the studies are based on the previous weekend's message. These "Sermon Based" Growth Groups are built on what we call lecture lab model. Imagine the weekend message as the teaching on Christian living, and the G2 as a lab where you get to roll up your sleeves and discuss how the message can work in your life. Each week there will be a series of Bible passages and questions on the of the sermon note sheet for you to study before the meeting. It will usually only take you 15 minutes per week to complete the homework.

What does it cost?

Few things in life are free and G2 is no exception! The cost of Growth Groups is the cost of commitment. (Specialty groups may have cost for material). During the first meeting each group will complete a "covenant" together. This simple form helps each group discuss their priorities and commitment. Part of that commitment is the promise to attend each week and to complete the homework as well as to attend the quarterly social and to do a service project. You have the first three weeks to decide if your group is a good fit. When you join a G2, you're promising to attend and be a part each week. It's this commitment that makes G2's work. We realize it's a big commitment, but you will get out of it what you put in, and it only lasts 10 weeks. At the end of each quarter, you have the choice of recommitting for another quarter, trying a new group, or taking a break all together.

What about child care?

Growth Groups are for adults only. Exceptions can be made for nursing newborns, up to six months. We leave it up to each family to work out their own child care. Sometimes, it works best for families to share a sitter or to swap child care with another family who's G2 meets on a different evening. If your Growth Group is on a

Wednesday, we encourage you to have your kids in our Children and Youth programs, which is at the church from 6:30 - 8:00pm. Nursery is also available Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8:00pm at the church.

How do I choose a group?

When selecting a group, we recommend you choose a group based on the leader team rather than location. We have found that groups do best when people share common interests or place in life with their leaders and other members. We feel so strongly about this that we have organized a leader guide with brief biographies of the leaders to help you connect. Remember, this is just a guide to help you self-select your group, they are not intended to box you in.

How do I sign up for a group?

You can sign up during the designated three week sign ups in the foyer. If you prefer, you can easily sign up online. Prior to your Growth Group start, you will receive a call from your leader.