

Small Group Launch FAQs

What is a Small Group?

A small group is composed of 8 – 14 adults who meet together on a regular basis to build relationships and grow as followers of Jesus. The group can be based on a particular gender, age group, marital status, affinity, or geographical area or a mix of any/all of those. Groups can meet in a variety of locations but most often in homes. Groups are lead by a facilitator who guides discussion.

Why small groups at The Point?

Our mission as a church is to “Point people to Jesus and to connect with each other.” Community is a biblical concept. Jesus modeled community by drawing together a group of 12 to share life and ministry. Small groups allow us to fulfill the last part of the mission statement by building small communities within the context of a large church. Small groups provide a safe environment where individuals can experience encouragement in their daily life and be challenged in their walk with Jesus. For greater insight, check out the [I Love My Church](#) sermon from May 11.

When will small groups begin?

Everyone who signs up for small groups will meet together for the first time on Sunday, January 6th at 6:30 pm in the Worship Center. Pastor Steve will share briefly and then everyone will have a chance to meet with their small group that evening.

When will small groups meet?

After the first meeting on Sunday, January 6th, each group will decide on the best day and time for their group to meet. Since groups will be organized somewhat based on meeting time availability indicated by each person at sign up, this shouldn't be too difficult.

How frequently will small groups meet?

The first session of small groups (January 6 – March 15) will meet weekly. Our launch curriculum, Rooted, is structured for weekly gatherings. Our sermon series will compliment the Rooted curriculum. At the conclusion of Rooted, each small group will be able to determine their meeting frequency going forward.

How will the members of each small group be selected?

Based on the information provided during sign up, individual members will be selected for small groups based primarily on geographic location with consideration given to stage of life. Once the first small group session is complete (mid-March), group members will have an opportunity to continue with their small group or select a new one.

What will happen to existing small groups?

Existing small groups will be encouraged to continue and will be brought into the small group ministry of the church. Leaders are included in all training opportunities and receive the support of the Small Groups Team.

Will the launch of small groups alter/change the Sunday morning schedule?

No. Sunday morning worship services will continue at 9:30 and 11:00.

How can I sign up to be in a small group?

Sign-ups for groups will occur online during the month of November at <http://gotothepoint.com/ministries/small-groups>.

Is there a cost?

The enrollment fee of \$20 per person for the first 10 weeks goes to defray the costs of the participant book (\$15), snacks for the first session, and a celebration dinner for the final session. The books are designed for personal reflection after each lesson with space for written responses, prayers and some journaling so sharing books isn't advised.

What should I do if I can't afford the enrollment fee?

Scholarships are available. Simply email smallgroups@gotothepoint.com to request assistance. We don't want cost to be a deterrent to anyone.

How is childcare being handled for small groups?

Childcare will be provided for session 1 on January 6th at the church. After the first week, each adult small group will have the flexibility to determine the best plan for childcare for their group. In keeping with The Point's Orange philosophy, small groups are another opportunity for the church to partner with parents. Parents should consider small groups as a way to provide more Christian adult influence in children's lives. Groups are encouraged to include children in group fellowship or serving opportunities, during meal time and possibly prayer time.

What should I do if I'm interested in leading a small group?

As a part of the first session, small group members will be given an opportunity to sign up to lead a new group. It is important for all leaders to experience the first small group session as participants prior to leading a new group.

What if I have more questions?

Please direct questions to our Ministries Director, Jeff Lewellyn at jeff@gotothepoint.com