



Wednesday Evenings (9/5-11/14)

A REMINDER about what **CULTIVATE** is all about. This is a primary avenue we use to emphasize the **GROW DEEP** focus. Based on the language of Colossians 2:6-7, this is a key priority for us here at Southland. Cultivate specifically offers a mid-week opportunity for us to work towards that goal.

The content for our Fall 2018 session: “DEEPER LIFE GROUPS” (or “D-Groups”)

We have decided to use Cultivate as the forum to bring back a modified version of “Deeper Life Groups.” Here are some basic details about these Bible study groups:

The goal is transformation. We want this to be fertile ground for the Holy Spirit to do His work in helping us **GROW** in our faith. It’s not about information, but us being shaped and molded by Him to be more like Christ in every area of our lives.

The content is God’s Word. We are adjusting the curriculum we have used in the past. *The primary focus is the same:* it’s about digging-in to God’s Word and how it intersects with our lives. *The overall intended goal of transformation is the same. Even the basic themes for each of the weeks are generally the same.* However, we are condensing the material down both in the length of this session as a whole (11 weeks) and in the length of the material for each individual week. The ordinary design of a D-Group is still for *each person* to spend time preparing (maybe 30 minutes to an hour with this revamped content). Then, groups come together to discuss and reflect on the content together.

The context is about us together in relationships for mutual encouragement, prayer and accountability. These are smaller groups of about 6-7 people of the same gender. This type of setting opens the door for beneficial connecting on a deeper level as *together* we strive for the growth and transformation of each one. *NOTE: We are also going to have a larger group option (men and women together). It will use the same content, but just in a different context.*

We encourage you to be a part of a D-Group. You can RSVP in Connect Group or in the foyer (not necessary if you’re wanting to be a part of the larger group). You can also use this electronic RSVP option: [Cultivate RSVP](#).

NOTE: *If Wednesday evening does not work for some reason (i.e. you are serving elsewhere, your basic schedule, etc.), please still sign-up. Just let us know somehow that you need an alternate time.*

DATES/TIMING of this SESSION. We re-launch our Cultivate programming on Wednesday, September 5. This same basic session runs for eleven weeks through November 15.

Children of Praise practices will not be done at that point as the kids will continue to be working towards their production in December. More specific details about the practice schedule beyond November 14 will be communicated along the way.

Each week from 5:30-6:15 we serve a basic meal, with the actual ministry programming for all ages starting at 6:30. We finish by 7:45.

PROGRAMMING for Kids and Youth for the Fall 2018 session.

Kids up through age 3 are in the nursery area for childcare.

“Children of Praise” practice for kids age 4 through 5th grade (perhaps 6th too*):



Our grade school students are again using Wednesday evenings to practice and prepare for their annual Christmas production (it will be on Sunday, December 9). This time includes rehearsals for the music and drama, but also involves some other activities along the way – especially for the younger ones. *We are putting together a team to lead C.O.P.* See “The Vine” for more information about C.O.P.

* *We are still finalizing plans regarding 6th graders. It is looking like they are going to participate again with C.O.P. We will communicate more about this for sure as we move towards 9/5.*

Middle school and high school students are using a series “**Plugged-In ... Connecting Students to the Heart of God’s Biblical Principles.**” They start together, but then divide into small groups.

More about Wednesday evening MEALS. We are continuing to make meals available for the sake of convenience as well as for an opportunity to fellowship with others in the church family.

Here are some details regarding the meals:

The cost for each meal is again \$3/person with a max of \$12/family (this is the same as last year).

Starting August 26, you can RSVP for meals in your Connect Group or at the Cultivate display (there is also an RSVP to sign-up to be a part of a “D-Group”). As before, you can RSVP for the entire session or on a more weekly basis. This certainly helps in our meal preparation.

Again, we are also making available an electronic RSVP option. It can be found at the following location: [Cultivate RSVP](#) (on electronic devices, you can click directly on the link to go to the RSVP form). It is the same

We hope you are able to join us for this CULTIVATE session!