



Wednesdays – 9/1 through 11/17

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

The content for our FALL 2021 session: Resuming the format we call “DEEPER LIFE GROUPS” (or “D-Groups”). Here is the plan for 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**. It’s not about information, but about us being shaped and molded by Him to be more like Christ in every area of our lives.

The content is God’s Word. As always, the primary focus is about digging-in to God’s Word and how it intersects with our lives so we can be rooted in Christ.

Specifically for this year, we are going to be using our D-Group time to focus on the Gospel of Mark. Each week, we’ll focus on a key text. Handouts will be made available for everyone to spend some time (30 minutes or so) in advance with the text. Then, when groups meet, they will spend their time reflecting on the content together. From past experience, the conversations become more valuable when members come already having some familiarity with the material. We will be communicating more specifics on the first night (Wednesday, September 1) – an introductory session.



The context is about doing this study *together* in relationships for better growth, mutual encouragement, prayer and accountability. These are smaller groups of about 6-10 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: If there are couples wanting to stay together in a hybrid/mixed option (men and women together), we will look to make that happen. It will use the same content, just in a different kind of context.

We do encourage you to be a part of CULTIVATE and one of these D-Groups as a way to GROW DEEP in your faith with others. You can sign-up on the RSVP sheet at the display in the foyer to let us know you want to be in one. You can also use this electronic RSVP option: <https://gosouthland.churchcenter.com/people/forms/286228> (if you are viewing this electronically, you can click directly on that link).

DATES/TIMING of this Fall 2021 SESSION. We re-launch CULTIVATE and D-Groups on Wednesday, September 1; this session runs through November 17 (the week before Thanksgiving). After a break, we will resume D-Groups in January.

Each week, we do serve a basic meal from 5:30-6:15 (see below for more details) with the actual ministry programming for all ages starting at 6:30. We finish around 7:45.

PROGRAMMING for Kids and Youth for this session.

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

“Children of Praise” practice for kids age 4 through 7th grade:



Our younger students (*we have included 7th graders this year to help with numbers*) are again using “Cultivate” time to practice and prepare for their annual Christmas production put on in early December. This time includes rehearsals for the music and drama, but also involves some other activities along the way (especially for the younger ones). Follow “The Vine” for more updates about C.O.P. as we work through more details.

Students in 8th grade through high school will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall for their own Cultivate time.

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. *If you are willing to help with meal preparation, please let us know.*

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 it has been in the past).

Starting August 22, you can RSVP for meals at the Cultivate display (the same place where you can also sign-up to be a part of a “D-Group”). Even if you are not able to join us for supper every week, having a basic number certainly helps in our meal preparation.

Again, we also have an electronic RSVP option. It can be found at the same location: <https://gosouthland.churchcenter.com/people/forms/286228> (again, on electronic devices, you can click directly on the link to go to the RSVP form).

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