

FAQs About CGs

Here are responses to frequently asked questions about Community Groups at Hopevale:

What is a Community Group?

Small groups of 8-15 people that typically meet in homes all around our area to build friendship, help one another grow in Christ, and serve Him together.

How often do groups meet?

Community Groups usually meet weekly or twice monthly for about 90 minutes. Yet, they are not just a meeting. They are about people doing life together in Christ.

How can I find the group that's best for me?

Ask people you know at Hopevale about their Community Group. You can visit a group meeting with them! Also, you can search for a Community Group that best fits you using our new *Find a Group* tool. Go to <http://hopevale.org/#/adults/info-about-groups>. Or stop by the Adults Desk and we'll help you find a group.

Are Community Groups “Bible studies”?

Yes and no. Community Groups focus on *living out* God's Word, not just plumbing the depths of the Bible and theology with little application to everyday life. We aim at living for Christ in our marriages, parenting, workplaces, communities and hearts—where it really counts.

Can I bring my children?

Yes, to a group that provides childcare. Many of our groups offer childcare for their meetings—provided by caregivers screened, trained, and usually paid by Hopevale Church. Many of our groups really are “communities of families.”

Your family is God's first small group! Pull out your calendar and carve out regular times together to “do life together” - work on a project, play a game, serve someone else. These times give you opportunities as a parent to model and teach your kids what really matters. These times also (inevitably!) provide opportunities for you to model and teach your children to accept, encourage, and be gentle and humble with one another.

Grace and Truth in Our Church
A Community of Grace and Truth series

A Life-Changing Church

Across the land, Americans are hungering for something more than money and a new car. They are looking for answers that satisfy the soul and restore a sense of belonging to one another. David Gergen in *U.S. News & World Report*

I believe the local church is the hope of the world. Pastor Bill Hybels

1. Share your thoughts on the quotes above. How is a local church like Hopevale in the best position to provide “answers that satisfy the soul and restore a sense of belonging to one another”?
2. Read John 13:34-35. What are some other ways churches could finish that sentence: “By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you . . .”?
3. How often does Jesus say, “Love one another” in these two verses? Someone has said that the 35 “one anothers” in the New Testament are simply ways to live out Jesus’ command here. Talk about how the “one anothers” below fulfill Jesus’ command to love:
 - Romans 12:10—
 - Galatians 5:13—
 - 1 Peter 4:9—
 - Galatians 6:2—
4. Jesus is saying here that our witness as a group is more powerful than our witness as an individual. Why is this true? How have you seen this work out?
5. Share a time that stands out in your mind when someone in your group cared for you like the Lord Jesus does.
6. How is your group doing in sharing the grace and truth of Jesus Christ with one another? How can your group grow in the areas Pastor Dan shared from Matthew 11:28-29:
 - Welcoming one another and newcomers—
 - Providing a place of rest to one another and newcomers—
 - Relating to one another with gentleness and humility—

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. John 13:34-35