

## **NEW: Cell Groups**

We have no guarantees when we will be able to meet together in large groups. But Jesus promised that even a handful of people meeting together would experience his presence. Let's take him seriously!

Cell Groups are very small groups, 2-5 people, gathering in person or via technology to help each other grow as disciples of Jesus. Because these groups will grow deep together, Cell Groups are men meeting with men, women meeting with women. We have a couple tracks you can choose from:

For those who prefer a significant amount of study and even homework, we encourage you to form a cell around David Ogden's excellent guide, *Discipleship Essentials*. Copies are available through the church office.

For those who prefer not to do homework but still want to grow, we have a guide of scripture passages and questions for discussion. Those guides are also available through the church office.

How can you be part of a Cell Group? It is pretty simple:

1. Pray and think of one person you want to learn from. Who is a more mature disciple you would like to help shape your spiritual life?
2. Pray and think of one person you want to invest in. Who could you pour into who is learning what it means to follow Jesus?
3. Contact both of those people and ask them to be part of a Cell Group with you. (You'll notice above we said 2-5 people. We recognize that flexibility is important, and you might find that the Holy Spirit guides you to include a couple extra people, or just to start meeting with two of you. Please don't let your Cell Group get beyond five people, however, as that will make it very difficult for deeper conversation and scriptural sharing to happen.)
4. Decide on a place and time to meet, either in person or via technology. We suggest meeting weekly, but even meeting twice a month will have a big impact on your spiritual growth!
5. Contact Pastor Jeff (email [pastorjeff@opendoornewlondon.org](mailto:pastorjeff@opendoornewlondon.org)) (text 612-812-1783). Let him know which track (homework or non-homework) your group wants to pursue.
6. Pastor Jeff will connect you to materials and you can start meeting! (Yes, it really is that easy.)
7. Along with your discussion guide (homework or non-homework) Pastor Jeff will provide you with a Cell Group Covenant that sets out guidelines for your group. These guidelines are designed to help build trust and accountability within your group.

No matter what happens in the next few months, meeting together in very small groups like Cell Groups is a way to experience the church in a real, life-giving way. Pray for God's guidance and get started!