FAQ's

What is a Growth Group?

A Growth Group is a small group made up of 7-14 members of Solid Rock Christan Fellowship. They meet weekly for the purpose of spiritual growth through friendships, mutual support, sharing, bible study, and prayer.

An average meeting lasts for about two hours, including light refreshments. Growth Groups are specifically designed to help Christians go deeper in their walk with God and each other.

When and Where Do They Meet?

Because people live by various schedules, we try to have a variety of Growth Groups meeting on various times, days, frequency, and nights of the week. We think you will be able to find a group that works with your schedule. Groups meet in homes or at the church building. Sunday groups do not meet on the 4th Sunday of the month, but members are encouraged to attend the monthly all-church prayer meeting instead.

What is the Expected Commitment?

Joining a Growth Group requires a commitment to attend scheduled meetings and do the homework ahead of time. Obviously, allowances are made for sickness, vacation, work conflicts and other special events, but not much more. This commitment is the key to a strong Growth Group. You have the first three weeks to attend the group to make sure it's a good fit for you.

What Will We Study?

The studies are based on the previous Sunday's sermon. Imagine the Sunday sermon as a gospel teaching, and the Growth Group as a lab where you get to roll up your sleeves and discuss how the sermon works in real life. There will be a series of Bible passages and questions to study before the meeting in the weekly sermon notes. It will usually take 30 to 60 minutes per week to complete the homework.

What About Child Care?

Growth Groups are generally for adults only. (Exceptions can be made for nursing newborns). We leave it up to each family to work out their own childcare. Sometimes it works best for families to share a sitter or to swap childcare with another family whose Growth Group meets on a different evening.

Who do I contact about Growth Groups?

To assist you in finding and signing up for a group, or to answer any questions you may have, please contact us by emailing the church Growth Group team at growthgroups@solidrockprescott.org.

What's the difference - Small Groups vs. Sunday School?

Common to many churches, Sunday School (or Core Classes) refers to a structured Bible study class that happens on Sunday morning, often with a designated teacher. "Small Groups" are smaller gatherings usually held in homes, focused on deeper fellowship, personal accountability, and applying Bible teachings to daily life, with more interactive discussion among group members. Essentially, Sunday School is more about instruction, while small groups prioritize relationship building and application.

Key differences:

<u>Size:</u> Sunday school classes tend to be larger, while small groups are intentionally kept smaller for more intimate interaction.

<u>Location</u>: Sunday School typically takes place in designated classrooms at the church, while small groups meet in homes or other convenient locations.

<u>Focus:</u> Sunday School often focuses on teaching biblical information and doctrine, while small groups emphasize personal sharing, prayer, and applying the Bible to real-life situations.

<u>Leadership:</u> A Sunday School class usually has a designated teacher leading the instruction, while small groups typically have a leader or facilitator.

Benefits of Sunday School:

- Easier to access for new church members as it's on-site
- Structured learning environment with a set curriculum
- Opportunity to learn from a skilled teacher

Benefits of Small Groups:

- Deeper relationships and accountability within the group
- More flexibility in meeting times and locations
- Greater opportunity for personal sharing and application of Bible teachings

5 SIGNS OF A HEALTHY GROWTH - (Growth Group Etiquette)

- Make spiritual growth our number one priority.
 - Let's help our Growth Group Leader and be on guard for tangents, off-topic comments, and conversations. Sometimes we need to be refocused.
- Accept one another.
 - We all have differences, God made us that way! We'll do our best to ensure that everyone is equally loved and valued. We will avoid conversations about politics and other topics that divide people.
- Take care of one another.
 - When crisis or need arises, the group should be led to respond with prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another, and meeting real needs (such as providing meals).
- Treat each other with respect.
 - One person is to talk at a time. Interruptions and multiple conversations are not respectful.
 - All group members (including leaders) should listen and avoid giving advice unless requested.
 - Our conversations need to involve everyone. Your leader will try to not allow any of us to be conversation dominators.
 - Gossip and put-downs will not be permitted.
 - Confidentiality is a must. What is shared in the group should stay in the group, unless what is shared may be harmful to you or to someone else and/or if the facilitator should need to request counsel from a Pastor about the subject or individual bringing up the subject.
 - Start on time and end on time. Honor the time allowed for the Growth Group.
- Keep our commitments to the group.
 - Growth is not likely to occur when someone sporadically attends or is not committed to the standards described here.