

## Discipleship Groups at Encounter Church

*\*Note: A more comprehensive rundown is available at the beginning of Discipleship Essentials by Greg Ogden, entitled "Getting the Most from Discipleship Essentials"*

If you're looking to take the "Next Step" after a Connect Group and want to go even deeper in your personal discipleship journey, Encounter would love to see you form or join a **Discipleship Group**.

**Discipleship Groups** at Encounter utilize the workbook *Discipleship Essentials* by Greg Ogden. This is a curriculum that blends together God's word with transparent relationships and mutual accountability to lead to accelerated spiritual growth.

### ***What is a Discipleship Group?***

- A group of 3-4 people, who agree to meet together every week or every other week for 1.5-2 hours.
- The group will meet regularly for 9-12 months.
- During meetings, this group will divide their time in 3 ways (the 3 C's):
  - Curriculum: working through the 25 lessons in *Discipleship Essentials*
  - Community: simply enjoying each other's company and getting to know each other at a deeper level
  - Confession: challenging each other to grow spiritually—through weekly "check-ins", confession of struggles and sin, and prayer with each other.
- When they're finished, each member of the group will (after a short break) turn around and start a *new* group with 2-3 new people, repeating the process anew. (Group members should spend time during their last 1-2 months praying together about who to invite to their next groups.)

### ***Tips for your Discipleship Group:***

- Spend a few weeks praying carefully about who you should be in a group with before making any asks. Ideally, you should do this with people you already know (somewhat), and people who you know will commit and take it seriously.
- Equally divide your time among the 3 C's (see above). This isn't about rushing to get through the assignments. Find a pace that works for you; for example, you could do a *DE* lesson every other week, or half a lesson a week.
- If possible, try to find a time other than a weeknight to hold your groups—breakfasts, Sunday evenings, or other times that are less likely to conflict with regular life. But at the end of the day, pick whatever time will help you and your group be able to commit consistently.
- Don't feel like you have to do a Discipleship Group *and* a Growth Group at the same time; it's probably wise not to. If you have to choose, we'd rather you do a Discipleship Group.