



LEADER FAQ

1. How many people can be in a Small Group?

It's up to you, but a key question to consider is how large can your group get before people are unable to participate in the discussion or to connect with each other?

Remember: larger groups can be more exciting, but smaller groups are often more meaningful. Smaller is always better for small groups.

2. How long should my group meeting last?

A typical in-person small group meeting lasts anywhere from 1 to 1.5 hours. Online groups tend to last 45 minutes to 1 hour. The key is to be consistent and not go over time.

3. How often should my group meet?

Most groups meet every week, or at least every two weeks, depending on the schedule of the group meetings.

4. How long does the group semester last?

We follow a two-semester schedule per year, lasting approximately 10-14 weeks each. Due to certain calendar events and holidays, our Small Group semester may vary in length.

- Spring Semester: January - May
- Fall Semester: September - November

Our Spring semester typically starts in January and finishes before Mother's Day. Our Fall semester typically starts after Labor Day and finishes before Thanksgiving. However, we encourage groups to continue meeting as long as you want. We love groups that continue year-round!

5. Where should my group meet?

Your Small Group can meet wherever you feel comfortable. Your group can meet in your home, or you can ask someone to host the group in their home. You can also meet in local restaurants, coffee shops, or any location that works best for your group.

6. Do small groups meet at the church?

At this time Small Groups meet in homes or other locations around the community. We do not have the capacity for Small Groups to meet on the church campus.

7. What do Small Groups study?

Every Spring and Fall we invite all Small Groups to participate in church-wide studies. We provide the materials for your group during this study. During the rest of the year, we provide discussion guides each week based on the weekend messages, which you can use, or you can select one of

our Milestone created Small Group studies. All of these materials are free of charge.

8. How do Small Groups handle childcare?

While we do not provide childcare at groups, we do assist Small Groups by offering onsite childcare on Monday nights from 6:30-8:30pm at the church. Groups meeting on Monday nights are welcome to drop the kids off at the church, attend their group, and pick up their kids following the meeting.

9. Does Milestone fill my group with participants?

It is the Small Group Leader's responsibility to grow the group and recruit members. We encourage leaders to invite people they meet during weekend services and also look at friends, family members, co-workers, and neighbors to invite. Leaders can send invitations through the Small Group Finder as well as personally invite people.

10. Why is no one signing up for my group on the Small Group Finder?

There are a couple reasons why this could happen:

- Make sure your group is listed on the Finder for people to see. If your group is not listed, you might need to update your group details. Only groups with complete details (day, time, and location) will appear on the Finder. You can email smallgroups@milestonechurch.com with your group details to make your group to live.
- Check your email. When someone expresses interest in your group, you will be notified via email. You should respond to the participant and let them know you have received their email, answer any questions they may have, and see if they would like to join your group. Then, log into the Small Groups Finder and add them to your group. Please note: not everyone who expresses interest in your group will join your group.

11. Why is my group not showing up on the Finder?

Only groups with complete details (day, time, and location) are searchable on the Finder. You can update your group details on the Finder, or email smallgroups@milestonechurch.com for help.

12. What if I don't know all my group details when I sign-up to lead?

That's okay! Just give us the details as soon as you can so we can get your group listed on the Finder. The sooner your group is visible for people to see, the more opportunity people will have to join.