

HBCSL Small Group

Frequently Asked Questions



Do I have to be a member of the church to join a small group? Church membership is not required in order to join a small group. However, participation in a small group is strongly encouraged when applying for church membership.

How many people are in a small group? Most small groups consist of 14 to 20 individuals.

Where do small groups meet? Small groups are currently meeting at both HBCSL campuses, and in homes throughout Grand Haven, Spring Lake, Muskegon, and Norton Shores.

When do small groups meet? We currently have small groups meeting on Sunday afternoon, Sunday evening, Monday evening, Tuesday evening, Wednesday evening, Thursday evening, and Saturday after service.

How often do small groups meet? Small groups meet the first three weeks of the month from September through May.

Are there separate small groups for men and women? No, although we do offer women's small groups as part of our Women's Bible Study Ministry. We value diversity with unity, and our accountability "split-time" gives the opportunity for men to connect with men and women to connect with other women.

Can I bring my child to small group? No. We kindly discourage the attendance of children in our small groups to enable you to have an experience free from distractions. This means that parents are responsible for arranging childcare during small group. This can include hiring a babysitter, swapping childcare with someone who meets with their group on a different night, or coordinating with other members of your group to arrange a mutual babysitter.

How are small groups selected? Small Group placement is typically informed by: group size, availability, location, stage of life, and the overall dynamic of the group.

What will small groups be studying? Groups will study sermon based curriculum provided by the teaching pastor, or a book study based on biblically applicable topics. Small group leaders are allowed to select their groups' material after it has been pre-approved by the leadership.

What's the difference between a Small Group and a Bible Study? The major difference is application and accountability. In small group, you will be encouraged to apply God's word to your life and will be held accountable by others in your group.

What does a small group meeting look like? Each meeting is structured for approximately two hours. This time typically looks like: 15 minutes of opening time to connect, 30 minutes of study time that centers around group discussion and life application, 60 minutes of mutual ministry "split-time" for men-with-men and women-with-women accountability and prayer, and 15 minutes of wrap up.