

# Why we use a Sermon-Based Format for our Groups at The Connection Church

Here are some of the key reasons our Connection Groups are sermon-based groups:

## **Sermon-Based Groups Deepen Engagement with Scripture**

Sermon-Based Groups allow members to dive deeper into the sermon text, allowing for a more thorough understanding of the biblical message. These groups also emphasize how to apply the sermon's teachings in daily life, fostering practical obedience to God's Word.

## **Sermon-Based Groups Foster Church Unity**

Since all small groups study the same sermon material, a cohesive learning environment is created that strengthens connections among members. This approach is particularly beneficial in diverse congregations, such as ours, as it provides a common ground for discussion, transcending language and cultural barriers. Sermon-Based Groups also promote unity among the satellite campuses of The Connection Church as in our large group Celebrations Services as well as in our small group Communities, we are on the "same page."

## **Sermon-Based Groups Provide for Predictable Discipleship**

Aligning small group discussions with the weekly sermon ensures that all members receive the same theological instruction, reducing the risk of varied teachings across groups. Church leaders can develop a strategic plan for a sermon series and corresponding group studies that systematically cover important doctrines and address specific challenges.

## **Sermon-Based Groups Simplify Leadership**

Group leaders can focus on guiding discussions rather than preparing extensive lessons, making it easier to recruit and maintain leaders. With the discussion questions provided, leaders can spend less time preparing for the Group Meeting and more time on doing Group Ministry.

## **Sermon-Based Groups Encourage Active Participation**

Small groups provide a space for members to ask questions and share insights, enhancing their understanding and retention of the sermon message. Participants can support one another in applying the teachings, fostering a sense of accountability and encouragement.

We believe that with sermon-based small groups, The Connection Church can create a dynamic environment that promotes spiritual growth, unity, and deeper engagement with Scripture.