



WHAT IS A JOURNEY GROUP?

Journey Groups are small groups of friends who meet in person or online to explore the Bible, follow Jesus' teachings, and inspire others to do the same. This modern take on early church gatherings fosters a supportive environment for deepening your faith through shared scripture study. Journey Groups provide encouragement and support as you live out the lessons learned as you study the Bible, while also equipping you to share your faith with others. It's a rewarding journey of learning, fellowship, and helping others learn to understand the Bible and follow Jesus together with you.

WHY CALL IT A JOURNEY GROUP INSTEAD OF A BIBLE STUDY OR HOUSE CHURCH?

We live in a culture that is full of people with different church experiences. Many times those were wonderful. But, other times people have had bad or even awful experiences associated with churches or church groups. Beyond this, many people have attended different Bible Studies, Small Groups, Life Groups, Home Groups, etc. All of these names can carry unknown baggage along with them. The truth is, the name is not too important. But choosing a name that doesn't put people off before they ever make it to a group is important. We also feel that it's best to try and call things by names that represent what they are. By inviting people to a Journey Group they may ask, "What's a journey group?" To which it's easy to reply with something like, "It's a group where we get together to learn the Bible and grow in our Journey as followers of Jesus." There's no bait and switch and the name makes sense.



IDEAL SIZE & LOCATION?

A group of 8 to 12 people is ideal. Larger than 12 people and you'll find that some people will skip a gathering, thinking, "there's plenty of people there, they won't miss me." Others, who are more soft-spoken or shy will find it easy to get overlooked or drowned out in a larger group.

Groups smaller than 8 can also face some issues. Sometimes the smaller groups can lack the vibrant discussion of a 8-12 person group. In general smaller is ok but larger than 12-15 brings some challenges.

WHERE SHOULD YOU HAVE YOUR JOURNEY GROUP?

Let me start by saying where NOT to have it. Don't do it at your church building. Don't do it in a public building like a library or coffee shop. Here's why. People have baggage when it comes to churches. Don't host your group in a place that is going to deter some from coming or wanting to invite friends. The goal is not about getting people to attend church. The goal of a Journey Group is to become a small group of friends who want to understand the Bible, live out the lessons you learn together, and help others learn to do the same. Coffee shops and public buildings simply have too many distractions and make it too easy for people to tune out or skip it altogether.

Do hold your Journey Group gatherings in places that foster relationships, like a living room, a backyard, a campfire, etc. *We do have people doing them over Zoom & we provide some special coaching!

We offer specific training regarding how to set up your space for success as well as how to handle different types of people that can derail, side track or blow up your Journey Group. Find these trainings and more on our website under the "Training" tab on the main menu.



JOURNEY GROUP OPTIONS

WE OFFER 2 OPTIONS & AND ENCOURAGE YOU TO TRY BOTH.

We provide training and ongoing coaching regardless of the method you choose. Many people will enjoy doing a series in the video format followed by some time in the Podcast Discussion format. The explanations below are just brief introductions to each option.

THE VIDEO SERIES OPTION:

This option utilizes videos that we have created to help teach through different sections of the Bible. You use the video as a small part of your time together in your Journey Group each week.

This option is great for brand-new Journey Groups or people who are young in their Christian walk. It's also appealing to those who love the outdoors since all of our lessons are filmed in some beautiful locations throughout the US and Canada.

THE PODCAST DISCUSSION OPTION:

This option takes no tech and is easy to do in different environments. The option relies on the members watching the YJJ Daily Bible Podcast. It's not critical that members watch it live but they do need to stay up on the podcasts in order to participate in your weekly Journey Group. Groups have some freedom to determine how they want to discuss the podcast. Some choose one day and break that down and dig into the passage while others allow members to bring the things they learned.

TRAINING - We offer training for both options and one-on-one coaching to walk with you as you get your Journey Group off and running! Find training available on demand by clicking the "Training" tab on the main menu of our website.



WHO SHOULD START A JOURNEY GROUP?

ANY BELIEVER who is following Jesus and wants to keep growing as a disciple who can learn to disciple others is the right person to start a Journey Group!

ANY BELIEVER who is willing to invest their time in the training we offer, be coachable, and apply what they're learning is the right person to start a Journey Group!

ANY BELIEVER who is tired of just going through the motions or floating along as a Christian is the right person to start a Journey Group!

EMAIL US TO GET GOING NOW YOURJESUSJOURNEY@GMAIL.COM

WHAT IF you're a new believer? No problem! Start with one on one coaching, add in some training you can access any time, and try it!

WHAT IF you've never led any kind of group or bible study before? No Problem! Let us come alongside you with personal coaching and training available on demand.

WHAT IF you don't go to a church? No Problem! Let us come alongside you and help you grow as a disciple who is learning how to help others do the same!

WHY WAIT? Open up your email... fire us off a message and tell us in your own words how excited you are to start a Journey Group and learn more about one on one coaching and on demand training.
Email us today at: YourJesusJourney@gmail.com