## **STEP TWO** GROW IN COMMUNITY

**NEXT STEPS** 

CHURCH OF KING

08.04.2021

### Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.

Psalm 92:13

## WELCOME TO STEP TWO

God's desire for us is to experience healing and wholeness through a community of people within the church. When we are planted in the church, we will be surrounded by others we can do life with. It is through these relationships that we have the opportunity to **connect with God** as we **grow in community**.

#### COMMUNITY

Connecting with God and experiencing salvation is the most important decision you will ever make, but it's just the beginning. Having a community of people within the church will help you find the healing and wholeness God desires for us. Real life change happens when you grow in community.

> And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

#### Acts 2:42, 46-47

Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

#### Hebrews 10:24-25

#### DISCIPLESHIP

Discipleship is simply letting God bring a person or group of people into your life who can help you know God more. Being discipled allows you to grow closer to God and find healing and wholeness. Discipleship is an ongoing process that takes time as we commit to doing life together with people in our church family.

As you grow in community, you will experience authentic, life-giving relationships that allow you to be open and receive all God has for you. God will create divine connections that will help you build trust with others. Discipleship happens when you allow others you've built trust with to encourage and build you up while also challenging you at times so you can grow.

Iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another. Proverbs 27:17

Once you have experienced the blessing of being discipled, you can help someone feel connected and speak into their life as you begin to disciple them.

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. Matthew 28:19-20

#### **SMALL GROUPS**

Small Groups are the key to getting connected so you can grow in community. A Small Group is a small group of people who gather together consistently, outside of weekend services, to deepen their connection with God and grow in community. Small Groups can help us live out God's purpose for our lives by encouraging us to go make a difference.

Small Groups help you grow in the following ways:

#### HEARING FROM GOD THROUGH THE BIBLE

We learn to hear from God through the Bible. A huge part of growing in community is reading God's Word together. You will learn more about the Bible and discuss how it is relevant in your life. This will help you hear from God when you spend personal time connecting with God through His Word.

#### PRAYER

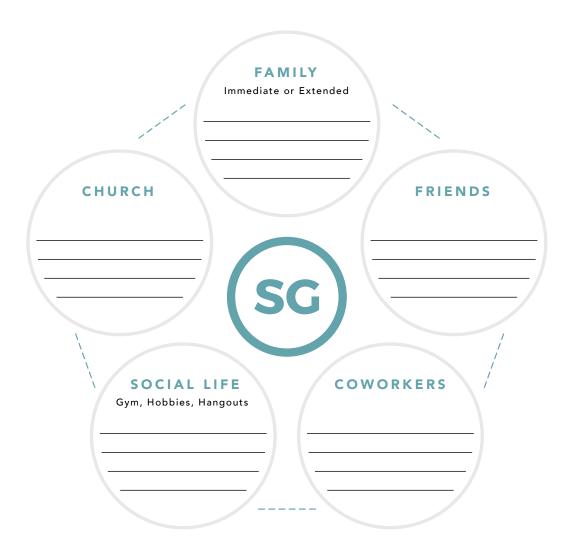
In a Small Group, you have the opportunity to bring your requests and your celebrations to God by praying together and praying for one another. Small Groups help others to grow in their personal relationship with Jesus as they learn how to connect with God through prayer. This happens when we are connected with others who can help lead us and encourage us to develop a prayer life that brings us closer to God.

#### SERVING

We deepen our connection with God through serving together with our Small Group. When people practically serve others together, there is a common purpose and a unique bond built between them. This helps them continue to connect with God at a deeper level as well.

I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house.

Acts 20:20



#### JOINING A SMALL GROUP

#### HOW TO GET INTO A SMALL GROUP

The online directory helps you find a group that fits your schedule, with people you have something in common with, and to study a topic you are interested in. You may know someone leading a small group or in a group so you can always join them as well. Visit **ChurchoftheKing.com/smallgroups** to find a group that works best for you. Your Next Steps host can also help you find a small group.

#### SMALL GROUP SEMESTERS

Small Groups are planned in three semesters – Winter/Spring, Summer and Fall semester. Most Small Groups meet weekly throughout your community in homes, coffee shops, at church, places of work and many other convenient locations. We also have online Small Groups that meet with others in their city, around the country, and even the world.

#### SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

Our small groups team has put together wonderful resources to help equip small group leaders. The Church of the King Small Group Core Curriculum consists of Freedom, Financial Peace University, Biblical Foundations and Elevate Prayer. These Core Curricula are great tools to help disciple people into a growing relationship with God.

We also have recommended curricula that consist of discussion guides for weekend messages, and other studies on various topics to help you grow closer to God and others. Your campus pastors can help give you more details related to Small Group Curriculum.

# YOUR NEXT STEP

1. Host or join a Small Group

2. Take the DISC assessment at ChurchoftheKing.com/DISC

3. Reserve your spot at Step Three