Sermon-based Engage Groups

Growing Together in Christ, Building Up One Another in Love

What Are Engage Groups?

At Commitment Church, *Engage Groups are sermon-based, home-centered gatherings designed to help people engage God's Word, engage one another, and engage God's mission*. Meeting throughout our communities, these groups provide a place where biblical truth moves from the worship gathering into everyday life through discussion, prayer, fellowship, encouragement, and spiritual growth.

While every Engage Group is centered on Christ and His Word, groups may express that focus differently. Some will emphasize **deep relationships, prayer, care, and fellowship**, while others will spend more time **digging deeper into the Scriptures and Sunday's sermon text**. Every group shares the same mission: *helping people become mature disciples of Jesus Christ*.

Our Mission: Engage Groups help fulfill Commitment Church's mission of **reaching** all nations with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, **equipping** God's people to serve, and **transforming** our communities and our world.

Through Engage Groups, we:

- **REACH** — Build relationships and create welcoming environments where people can experience the love of Christ.
- **EQUIP** — Grow deeper in God's Word through sermon-based study, discussion, prayer, and practical application.
- **TRANSFORM** — Encourage one another to live out our faith and make a Gospel impact in our homes, communities, and world.

Our Biblical "Why"

The early church gathered in both **large worship gatherings and smaller home gatherings** where believers shared life, encouraged one another, prayed together, and grew in faith. Acts 2:46-47 and Ephesians 4:15-16 remind us that spiritual growth happens best when believers are connected to Christ and actively building up one another in love.

Engage Groups exist because God desires His people to:

Grow spiritually through His Word

- 2 Timothy 3:16–17; 1 Peter 2:2; Colossians 3:16

Experience authentic biblical community

- Acts 2:42–47; Hebrews 10:24–25; Romans 12:4–5

Care for one another in practical ways

- Galatians 6:2; 1 John 3:16–18; Romans 12:13

Pray for and encourage one another

- James 5:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:11; Ephesians 6:18

Discover and use their spiritual gifts

- 1 Peter 4:10–11; Romans 12:6–8; 1 Corinthians 12:4–7

Reach family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers with the Gospel

- Matthew 28:19–20; Acts 1:8; Colossians 4:5–6

Build a healthy and unified church body

- Ephesians 4:11–16; Ephesians 4:1–6; Colossians 2:19

Our Relational “Why”

Large worship gatherings inspire us, but smaller gatherings help us be known, know others, and know Christ more deeply.

Engage Groups create environments where people can:

- Develop meaningful friendships.
- Share victories and struggles.
- Receive prayer and encouragement.
- Be cared for during difficult seasons.
- Grow in accountability and spiritual maturity.
- Experience the family of God beyond Sunday mornings.

No believer was intended to walk alone. Engage Groups help ensure that every person has a place to belong, grow, and serve.

What Engage Groups Do for the (Vitality) Health of the Church…

Individual Health

Engage Groups help believers:

- Apply Sunday's teaching to daily life.
- Learn how to study Scripture personally.
- Strengthen their prayer life.
- Discover and exercise spiritual gifts.
- Develop Christlike character.
- Grow in faith, obedience, and spiritual maturity.

Collective Health

Engage Groups help the church:

- Build stronger relationships across the congregation.
- Create pathways for care and support.
- Develop future leaders and disciple-makers.
- Strengthen unity around God's Word.
- Extend the church's presence into homes and neighborhoods.
- Foster a culture of prayer, hospitality, and mission.

As every member contributes, the entire body grows stronger and healthier, fulfilling God's design for His church.

How Do Our Sermon-based Engage Groups Function in the Home?

Every Engage Group will reflect the unique personality and gifts of its leaders and participants, while maintaining a common commitment to Christ, Scripture, prayer, and community.

What happens at an Engage Group? "The Flow"

- **Prayer:** We suggest opening with prayer to invite the presence and love of God to inhabit your gathering.
- **Snacks & Fellowship:** We encourage "light" Refreshments. This should be a shared responsibility amongst your group. **Approx. Time: 10-15 minutes but more time can be spent afterwards.**
- **Share:** We seen the advantage of spending time to prayer for each other's needs. **Approx. Time: 15-30 minutes for Prayer Requests.**
- **Study, Discussion & Apply:** We encourage the study of the Scripture. We provide weekly "Engage Homework" that's synchronized with our current churchwide sermons series. Each EG is different with their approach. Some lean heavily on the provide study questions, some go deeper into the major text or book of the bible used for the sermon series or some enjoy revisiting the points of interest from the sermon. **Approx. Time: 45 minutes**
- **More Fellowship Time:** Time depends upon the Host's schedule.

What's your qualification for hosting or facilitating?

- A member of Commitment.
- You are growing and willing to grow in your relationship with Christ.
- You have a heart for people and want to help facilitate genuine **Koinonia**.

Do you have to "Host" your Engage Group?

- It seems to work better when the person facilitating the group is also hosting the group in their home.
- If you can't, we suggest finding a reliable host and consistent location.
- But remember the "size" of your home doesn't matter. It will only help you determine how many people you can actually host.
- As a "host" you are NOT required to supply ALL the snacks – this should be shared by everyone attend the group.

What will you have to prepare or do as a Facilitator?

- Please prepare your heart (s) and the environment of your home or as best you can—the location of your gathering. Remain in pursuit of righteousness and peace within your home and/or gathering location.
- Super import to consistently attend worship services and remain attentive to the sermon preached. Take copious notes to help you prepare in facilitating your group. You will never have all the answers but know what you can answer.
- You're not required to prepare anything **"extra"** from the Bible. If you are comfortable, please feel free to add greater insights to the sermon text and topic. Allow others within your group to add greater insights and personal application (s). But always be careful (not) to add or affirm anything that the Text doesn't say for itself.
- Remember and remind your group that every week the entire Church receives "**Sermon Notes"** and **"Engage Homework"** within the Highlights. Simply answer the questions and encourage everyone attending your group to do the same—even on their own prior to your gathering. Please take additional copies home with you to share with your group and the **"Engage Homework"** should always be available on the church app.
- As you **"facilitate"** you will gain more and more confidence to help others navigate the questions and prayer but most of all the environment care of the group. Remember to share the load with those you grow to have confidence in their giftedness while minimizing the eagerness of those who seem to **"dominate"** the time—like in prayer, reading, insights, etc.

How long do we need your help?

- We encourage that you **only meet 2X per month**.
- Engage Groups meet t**wice a month** during the **2nd and 4th Quarters** of each year:

  Q2: April • May • June
  Q4: October • November • December

***Please Note: Equip Breaks are provided in the 1st and 3rd Quarters.**

One Mission, Many Expressions

- Some Engage Groups may be highly relational, and prayer centered.
- Others may be more discussion-oriented and focused on deeper biblical study.
- Many will naturally blend both approaches.
- What unites every Engage Group is a commitment to helping people grow in Christ, build meaningful relationships, and strengthen the Body of Christ through God's Word, prayer, fellowship, and mission.
- Engage Groups are where faith becomes personal, relationships become meaningful, and the church becomes family.

Acts 2:46-47: 46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread *from house to house,* they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Ephesians 4:15b-16: 15a We are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him who is the head, *even* Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, *being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies*, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.