



FAQ

Why small groups?

People grow in God-honoring relationships.

The first thing that God ever declared as “not good” was for man to be alone (Gen.2:18). We were created on purpose for a purpose: *to live in relationship with God and His people*. Small groups offer big opportunities for people to grow in ways that cannot be achieved apart from intimate moments in the context of authentic relationships.

Why should I lead a small group?

Because you are as unique as the people your group can reach.

There are some people within your circle of influence that very well may only be reached by YOU. They may never have a better opportunity to share their story, hear your story, and be changed by His story apart from the relationships your group may offer them.

What kind of small group can I lead at Chapelhill?

We have three small group streams: Support, Life, and Interests

Support Groups are where the hurt can heal, the broken are encouraged to face difficult situations, and captives find freedom from addictive behaviors. Life Groups discuss biblical topics and biblical living through a variety of resources. Interest Groups build God-honoring relationships as its members gather weekly to enjoy the same hobbies, activities, or interests. Our small groups streams are also classified in pools: Men’s, Women’s, Married/Co-Ed, Young Adults, and Students.

What curriculums do Chapelhill small groups use?

Many to none.

Not all groups use a curriculum. Especially those that form around activities and interests. Some of our groups follow a SOAP bible reading plan while others may use a small group discussion guide which reviews the current Sunday message series. We also have an approved list of curriculums you can select from, or you may submit your own for our leadership team to review. If you would like to propose a curriculum or request a pre-approved list, email the small groups pastor at matt.shaffer@chapelhill.cc. If you would like to review a pre-approved list, be sure to check out our Leader Resource page by visiting us at chapelhill.cc/smallgroups.

When do Chapelhill small groups meet?

Almost any day of the week, at almost any time of the day.

The day of the week and the time you select can determine the success of your group. Prayerfully consider what is going to work best for your personal schedule *and* what is going to be most reasonable for your target audience. You also want to avoid situations where group members would have to choose between going to their small group or going to a church-wide event. For this reason, groups do not meet on Sunday mornings during a Weekend Worship Experience, or Wednesday nights during the Prayer Service.

How often do Chapelhill small groups meet?

Groups meet consistently and consecutively each week during a semester.

Relationships develop over time. We all want someone in our life that we can count on. People don't expect anything less from a group leader. Meeting consistently – on a weekly basis – helps us build trust with those we lead. It is also one way we honor and protect the opportunity God has given us to share His life with the people He has called us to lead.

In addition to our weekly times, our small groups are also broken up into semesters with breaks in between. Our fall semester runs from mid-August to the end of November, and our spring semester runs from mid-January to the middle of May.

Where do Chapelhill small groups meet?

Nearly everywhere.

In a home. At a park. At the mall. At a restaurant. Depending on the type of group you want to lead, you might even meet in the woods! Homes are great for many reasons, but sometimes a group meeting at a Chick-fil-A is what people need. Wherever you choose to meet, stay consistent and keep it predictable. Once again, consider your target audience and any childcare needs that may be necessary. Small group rooms are available for groups to meet on campus, but space is limited. Approval for room usage is based on a number of factors. Request for these rooms can be submitted to rebecca.jensen@chapelhill.cc.

How do I get people involved in my group?

Invite them.

GroupLink is an event Chapelhill hosts each August and January at all of our campuses to help people connect to small groups. During GroupLink, church members are encouraged to browse groups and get connected to a small group. Once you are ready to lead your group, church members will be able to view and register for your group online through our website.

As exciting and effective as these events are, the best way to attract people to your group is to invite them. We encourage you to reach across the aisle where you sit in church. Start looking around you in the places where you work and play. Talk to those who serve with you on a ministry team. Invite people within your circles to come "do life" with you and your group.

When can I start my Chapelhill small group?

As soon as your training is complete.

The process time can vary from leader to leader for a number of reasons. However, completion of all four Growth Track steps is required of all small group leaders. Once your application has been processed and your training completed, you will be ready to begin leading your group during a small group semester. Our fall semester begins in August with GroupLink and runs until the end of November. Our spring semester begins in January with GroupLink and runs until May.

Thank you for your interest in leading a Chapelhill small group. I invite you to attend our next Small Group Leader Training on Sunday, May 20 at 5pm at our Douglasville location, or at 12:30pm at our Bremen, Atlanta, and Dunwoody locations. You are NOT committing to anything by attending the hour long training event and it may help answer many additional questions as you decide if the Small Group Leader role is the volunteer "spot" for you.

We look forward to leading and growing with you!

*---Pastor Matt Shaffer
Small Groups Pastor*