

For further discussion:

Q1. What are some things you can achieve in a home group that can't be successfully done in a large Sunday meeting? What might be the disadvantages of only meeting in a home group?

Advantages of home group	Disadvantages of home group

Q2. **Read Ephesians 4:11-16.** What is the goal for God's people in relation to each other?

Q3. **Read Ephesians 4:29 - 5:2.**

- (a) What is the motivation for the way we live and how we are to treat each other?

- (b) What are some concrete ways the ideas in this passage could be expressed in your group?

Q4. What are some of the things that stop groups working? How can these be overcome?

Q5. Work through the list under Expectations. Agree together on what you want your group to be like. (You might set a time, say 3 months, to review how well your group is achieving these expectations)



What are home groups about at drummoyne presbyterian?

As church grows it is increasingly difficult to know everyone well. Home Groups can provide the closeness and commitment of a small number of quality relationships. Home Groups provide opportunities to serve one another – in fellowship, in sharing, in prayer as we learn together from God’s word. A small group setting is an ideal place to ask questions, raise doubts & struggles, discuss issues and talk in concrete ways about how the gospel applies to our lives.

the purpose of home groups:

1. To study God's Word together and encourage each other to live out its truth, to grow in maturity and share its truth with others.
2. Pray together.
3. Care for one another, (and for others outside the group), in practical ways.
4. Welcome new people into the group.
5. Have fun together.

Yet within this framework each group has the freedom to structure things in a way that suits the group members.

expectations

It is important that the group discuss a set of expectations for the general format of the group. This could include things like:

- Starting & finishing time?
- Venue(s)?
- Confidentiality?
- What will you study?
- Expectations regarding praying for each other inside and outside the group?
- A regular (monthly) meal or social activity together? etc.

home group leaders & assistant leaders

Home Group Leaders and Assistant Leaders are appointed by Craig Tucker and the elders, they meet regularly together to be trained, supported and to pray together. The role of the Home Group leader includes: leading or delegating the Bible study, helping the group start and finish on time, reminding the group of their purpose and agreed expectations, and generally nurturing the life of the group. However, the success of the group is everyone's responsibility.

a commitment to training

In order to provide adequate training for our Home Group Leaders this year, the elders have decided that there will be 3 combined leadership group meetings where training for home group leaders will be done. Home groups across our church family will not be on these weeks so that leaders can meet to receive this training. Hopefully, a week off will mean home group members will be refreshed and enthusiastic for meeting each other during the other weeks when home group is on.

serving together

Home Group is a great place to serve – both those within your group, and others in our church family outside the group. For example:

- You will be asked to be “linked” to a couple of people in our congregation not currently in a group themselves. Together you will need to think through how to pray and care for them.
- From time to time, your group might be asked to serve in a particular way: for example organising a church meal or leading church together on the Sunday.