

WHY SEMESTERS?



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THE BIG IDEA: LIFE CHANGE AND TRANSFORMATION IN A RAPIDLY GROWING CHURCH

The Semester model of Life Groups follows along with the general school calendar and leverages the most ideal times for people to gather together. While there are many values of this model, we want you to know three great reasons why we do our groups in semesters:

- 1. It Opens Up New Seats** – Allowing groups to meet for a season and then “take a break” creates opportunity for new people to join into a group. Open seats are always needed. Remember that “Connected” people find a way to stay connected – but “Unconnected” people have a hard time trying to break their way into community.
- 2. It Breathes Life into Current Leaders** – Leading a Life Group can be exhausting. Many group leaders get tired, and you need space and time to refresh and refocus. When groups attempt to meet year round, leaders often burn far too much energy trying to gather people during the summer months or Christmas season. Life seems to follow naturally along with the school year in many ways.
- 3. Life Change is More Effective and Focused** – Life change is the goal of our Life Groups, but many times in long-term group environments life change doesn’t happen simply because the meeting does. There is a rhythm to Life Groups. They begin to lose their effectiveness after about 14-16 meetings. Therefore breaks need to happen. Valuable things such as accountability start to slip. The reality is that most accountability doesn’t take place in a group any way. The results of good community such as accountability happen outside the group through relationships that started in a group.