



# PINE ST CHURCH

## Frequently Asked Questions Growth Groups

Spring Semester 2018

### **Q: Why Pine Street Church Growth Groups?**

*Because one size doesn't fit all. Life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century requires spiritual growth opportunities that are lifelong and life-wide. Diverse spiritual and social needs of our church call for diverse pathways of connecting to God and to each other. Connectedness is essential for a flourishing, growing faith. Growth Groups will be designed around people's passions, and when people are passionate about something, it's more engaging, more meaningful, and more fun!*

### **Q: What will Growth Groups Be About?**

*Almost anything! Think of leaders and facilitators being curators of content---not subject matter experts or biblical scholars necessarily. Growth Groups and their leaders will help the people of our church practice our passions on purpose. Examples of groups could be a Bible study, a book study, or a special interest group like parenting/grandparenting, the Enneagram, any book of the Bible, any book that someone loves and wants to lead a group discussion about, yoga, movies, art, meditation, etc.*

### **Q: Do you have to be a member of PSC to participate?**

*Not at all. Growth Groups will create new doors into the life of our church. People who may never show up on Sunday morning will choose to join a Growth Group. These groups are open to all and closed to none---whether longtime member, newcomer, or a friend of a friend!*

### **Q: What does a Growth Group involve?**

*A short-term commitment of 6-12 weeks is an opportunity for you to meet with 4-15 PSC members for 6-12 ninety-minute sessions. During that time we hope you become better acquainted with each other and step forward in your faith.*

### **Q: Where will Growth Groups meet?**

Pretty much everywhere. At the church. In homes. At Pubs. In coffee houses. The time and place will depend on the Growth Group leader as well as the nature of the group.

**Q: How long do Growth Groups last?**

*Growth Groups create a growth cycle in the span of 6-12 weeks through short, concentrated times of spiritual focus followed by times for Sabbath rest. They are intentionally designed with definite start dates and end dates that occur three times (or semesters) per year: fall, winter/spring, and summer.*

**Q: What is the benefit of a short-term group?**

*The benefit is that it makes it easier for PSC members and newcomers to join a group when everyone is starting at the same time. Often it is easier for many people to make short-term commitments rather than commit to something that has no end in sight. Just as physical exercise calls for times of “stress” and “rest,” spiritual growth happens likewise through “action” and “contemplation.” Sometimes people join a group and the expectations are that they will stay in that group until Jesus comes. This doesn’t work for everybody.*

**Q: What would I be getting myself into?**

*Something fairly wonderful. Growth Group norms would include making every effort to attend all gatherings, exercising generous listening, being open to learning and to other perspectives, and keeping confidences.*

**Q: When will registrations start?**

*February 1. A list of small groups will appear in a printed brochure or online at [PineStreetChurch.net](http://PineStreetChurch.net). Registration will be open for approximately 2 weeks. All groups will then begin in mid to late February.*

**Q: May I register for more than one group?**

*Yes. It all depends on your schedule and your desire.*

**Q: Is there a financial cost involved?**

*Only sometimes. There may be a cost for a book or subject materials or for an occasional group that is offered that might require special training or certification (Enneagram). Most groups will be free, however.*

**Q: When will the small groups start this spring?**

*Generally speaking, most all groups will begin in mid to late February. Be looking for the Growth Groups printed brochure or check the Pine Street Church website for detailed information about each group starting February 1.*