

What Should a Group Study?

Each Growth Group has the freedom to select study materials that suit their interest, need and ability. At Central we have made a commitment to support growth groups with effective and accessible sermon based resources.

Advantages of Sermon Based Resources:

1. The materials are designed to be accessible to all Christians providing moderate Bible study and personal application.
2. Integration with the morning message, allows people to focus on one idea, thus guarding against information overload.
3. In busy lives, it is sometimes hard to prepare for a study. Studies that track with the Sunday sermons give people a head start in preparations.
4. Less preparation is required for group leaders allowing them to focus on wider concerns than being a detailed teacher.
5. Open groups can include new members without them feeling like they have missed out on previous discussions.

Our sermon based growth group materials also contain elements which will help a group connect to greater concerns. Starting in fall 2010 we will be including churchwide prayer concerns so that your group can pray with others for concerns that face the whole church.

In addition we will provide materials in the "Braching Out" section that will direct groups to wider concerns in the church. Every 4 to 6 weeks we will identify an opportunity to consider a topic not directly addressed in the study. This will help groups prepare for significant events and seasons in the church. For example, groups will be encouraged to plan service projects, participate in outreach events, pray for missionaries and be attentive to new people