

Journey Group FAQs

What is a Journey Group?

A Journey Group is a group of 8 - 12 individuals who commit to a 9-month discipleship process called "*The Journey*." During this process, believers discover and develop an intimate, abiding relationship with Christ that results in a lifetime of kingdom fruitfulness and influence.



Who is in a Journey Group?

20 years ago, *The Journey* was developed as a men's disciple-making resource for the marketplace. Since then, it has been revised so that it is an effective resource for men and women in the church. At First Baptist Bryan, Journey Groups are same-gender groups with 8-12 participants and 2 "guides" that facilitate *The Journey*. Groups may meet live or virtually. Guides are required to go through *The Journey* and basic training before being approved as a Guide.

What happens during a Journey Group meeting?

Every other week, Journey Groups will meet for individuals to encourage one another and share what they discovered over the last two weeks in *The Journey*. In the off weeks, it is typical for Journey Groups to find ways to meet for fellowship and relationship building. Journey Group meetings typically last from 90 minutes to 2 hours.

Do Journey Groups replace Accountability Groups?

No, unlike ongoing Accountability Groups, Journey Groups are temporary. But because they are designed to lead believers into an intimate and abiding relationship with Jesus, they build an essential foundation upon which ongoing Accountability Groups can thrive. Those already in Accountability Groups are encouraged to step away for a season to give undivided focus to building or re-building an intimate and abiding relationship with Christ. After completing *The Journey*, individuals will be ready to follow the Lord's lead concerning resuming their Accountability Group, or engaging other types of opportunities to multiply disciples.

What is *The Journey* Process?

Small Group Discussion Meetings

A Journey group meets every other week for about 9 months, either in person or online. You will get to have candid conversations with this group, share spiritual discoveries from the material, and encourage one another.

Personal Bible Study including Journaling

We will teach you how to connect with God through His Word. One key tool we use is Journaling. Our goal is for you to have a hunger for God's Word and learn how to become a self-feeder.

Personal Guides to help show the way

Every Journey Group has Guides who are on *The Journey* with you. They are not teachers or counselors, but rather, facilitators to help point you in the right direction and to monitor your progress.

Retreats

We incorporate 3 different group retreats where you will spend extended time away with your group and with the Lord. These are usually on a Saturday. Each of these are designed to help you deepen your intimacy with God in applying what you are discovering on *The Journey*.

I'm considering *The Journey*.

Once you decide to consider *The Journey*, go to fbcbryan.org/grow/journeygroups to indicate your willingness to see if *The Journey* is right for you. To help you determine your readiness for *The Journey*, a 6-week no-strings-attached pre-study called *The Journey to the Inner Chamber* is offered at the beginning of each Spring and Fall MidWeek semester, and after each Spring and Fall Break. This free 6-week study will help you determine if the 9-month journey is a good fit for you, and is an important part of your preparation for *The Journey*. For this reason, it is required before joining a Journey Group. Journey Groups will form at the conclusion of each 6-week study.

I'm committing to *The Journey*.

Every individual committing to *The Journey* will need to purchase a "Basic Journey Pack" as a personal investment in their intimate and abiding relationship with Christ (see <https://www.influencers.org/the-journey/>). The cost is \$100 per pack, but Journey Packs purchased through the church office will be \$60. Scholarships are available for those unable to sacrificially make this investment. Participants will be encouraged to wait on purchasing a pack until their group has completed their review of *Journey to the Inner Chamber* and your commitment to the 9 month process is firm. The Basic Journey Pack includes:

- Journey Manual
- Influencers Journal
- *An Orphan No More* book
- *Prayer Cottage* book
- *Abide* book
- *Beyond the Inner Chamber* book
- *The Journey to the Inner Chamber* book. (*The Journey to the Inner Chamber* is included in this Pack. This is a great opportunity to give one away to someone you want to share *The Journey* with!)