

Why are we calling homegroups "discipleship groups"?

To help us keep in mind the aim of meeting; growing as disciples of Jesus. In Matthew 28:19 Jesus commissions his followers to go and make disciples. So, important as fellowship and sharing new are, our highest goal must be to become mature disciples—men and women full of the life of Christ, becoming more like Christ, by the Holy Spirit, through the word of God. Wonderfully God calls us to be part of this together as we prayerfully support and lovingly encourage one another.

To reflect the hope that some groups might meet outside a home. For example, some might meet in the chapel or in church. This might make them more accessible to new people.

Not because we want a change in membership of groups or a change in the fellowship and support the groups already enjoy.

Why are all the groups using the same material?

To make it easier for people who are looking for a group. Everyone doing the same thing will make it easier for new people to join something that feels part of the church's activity rather than feeling they have to fit into a well established group. People can try different groups without losing track of the material. Discussion can be less intimidating when everyone has access to the study material.

To encourage us to engage with the topic and discuss outside our own groups with others in our churches.

To make it easier to share out leading the meetings. Nobody has to feel they need special knowledge to lead/facilitate discussion.

To help grow new leaders. At the moment, we don't have enough groups for all the people that want to join, so growing people's experience and confidence leading/facilitating is important.

Not because we want all groups to do things the same. The material allows groups to be flexible in how they use it. Some might prefer discussion after watching a video together, others to focus on Bible study. Some may feel comfortable to meet in person, others by zoom for the time being.

What if the changes aren't working for me?

We are trying out the format; it is not fixed in stone. Please do feedback to your leaders or to Andy B or F. Learning from our Lord is the aim; the method is secondary!