

6. Small Groups Help People Discover and Use Their Gifts

1 Peter 4:10 (NKJV) As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

Romans 12:6 (NKJV) Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith;

Romans 12:7 (NKJV) or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching;

Romans 12:8 (NKJV) he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

1 Corinthians 12:7 (NKJV) But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all.

Application: Everyone has a God-given role. Small groups give people a safe and encouraging space to identify, develop, and operate in their spiritual gifts.

7. Small Groups Empower Believers to Walk in Their God-Given Calling

Ephesians 2:10 (NKJV) For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Hebrews 3:13 (NKJV) But exhort one another daily, while it is called “Today,” lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

Philippians 1:6 (NKJV) Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.

Application: Everyone has a destiny in Christ. Through encouragement, prayer, and spiritual companionship, small groups help people step into and stay on track with God’s purpose for their life.



God’s Design for Growth – The Power of Small Groups

Sunday, June 1, 2025

1. God’s Design for Community Began from the Beginning

Genesis 2:18 (NKJV) And the Lord God said, “It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.”

Ecclesiastes 4:9 (NKJV) Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor.

Acts 2:46 (NKJV) So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart.

Application: God designed people for connection. Small groups reflect this relational nature, fostering belonging and spiritual support beyond Sunday services.

2. Small Groups Help Fulfill the "One Another" Commands

Galatians 6:2 (NKJV) Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

James 5:16 (NKJV) Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

Romans 12:10 (NKJV) Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another.

Application: The New Testament includes dozens of “one another” commands. Small groups create the practical space where believers can care, confess, pray, and honor one another in daily life.

3. Small Groups Build Unity and Strengthen the Church Body

Ephesians 4:11 (NKJV) And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

Ephesians 4:12 (NKJV) for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

Ephesians 4:13 (NKJV) till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

Ephesians 4:14 (NKJV) that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

Ephesians 4:15 (NKJV) but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—

Ephesians 4:16 (NKJV) from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

1 Corinthians 12:21 (NKJV) And the eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you”; nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.”

1 Corinthians 12:22 (NKJV) No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary.

1 Corinthians 12:23 (NKJV) And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty,

1 Corinthians 12:24 (NKJV) but our presentable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it,

1 Corinthians 12:25 (NKJV) that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another.

1 Corinthians 12:26 (NKJV) And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

Colossians 3:14 (NKJV) But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

Application: The church is not a building—it’s a body. Small groups further help knit the body together through relationships, helping every person know they are seen, valued, and needed.

4. Small Groups Are a Training Ground for Discipleship and Growth

Proverbs 27:17 (NKJV) As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.

2 Timothy 2:2 (NKJV) And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

Luke 6:40 (NKJV) A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher.

Application: Growth happens in relationship. Small groups are where believers are equipped, challenged, and mentored into spiritual maturity.

5. Small Groups Foster Accountability and Spiritual Health

Matthew 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Matthew 28:20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.

Hebrews 10:24 (NKJV) And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works...

Galatians 6:1 (NKJV) Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one...

Proverbs 27:6 (NKJV) Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

Application: Spiritual growth requires accountability. In small groups, trusted relationships provide the environment to encourage, correct, and protect one another in love.