

FAQ about Group Formation Season

Commonly Asked Questions and their Answers

What is Group Formation Season?

Group Formation Season is the time of year where we invite people to move beyond the *rows* of our weekend experience to *circles*, forming community groups. This season occurs twice a year; in the spring and in the fall. During this time, all available community groups will be posted online where group seekers can choose which one they would like to join.

When is the next Group Formation Season?

We will form groups here from January 5-January 26. After that, the next opportunity to join a community group will be in September of 2020.

How do I join a group?

Visit journeyrva.com/groups between **January 5-January 26** to join a group.

What types of groups are available?

Our typical group types include Men's, Women's, Couples, and Mixed. Available group types will be dependant upon the volunteers who sign-up to facilitate and/or host in their home.

Are children allowed at the group meetings?

Some Couples groups elect to have children in the same home during the meeting (typically on another floor with a babysitter(s) hired and paid for by the group) while others elect to have only adults present.

What if the group I sign up for doesn't fill up?

If there are groups that do not fill by the January 26 deadline, those individuals will be invited to join other available groups prior to the Rooted Launch event.

Is there a guarantee that my preferred group type will be available?

(For example: Do you have a homeschooling moms group? Do you have a men's group that meets on Wednesday mornings?)

Our hope and desire is to have new groups forming in as many areas of town and group types as possible. However, available group types will be dependant upon the volunteers who sign-up to facilitate and/or host in their home. If you are open to facilitating and/or hosting, please email our GroupLife team at groups@journeyrva.com. While some group seekers find value in looking for a group of people in the same stage of life, we encourage all group seekers to consider the possibilities of engaging with a more diverse community.

What is a Mixed group?

A *mixed group* is a group comprised of members not organized by gender, marital status, or stage of life. These groups typically gather around belonging to a common area of town or are launched as a continuation of a Short-Term Group. Available group types will be dependant upon the volunteers who sign-up to facilitate and/or host in their home. If you are open to facilitating and/or hosting, please email our GroupLife team at groups@journeyrva.com,

What is a formative group?

A **formative group** is a group that forms without a pre-appointed leader. In order for a formative group to be established, the group will need a contact person and a host home to commit for the 8-week starter period of a new group.

How often do the groups meet and for how long each time?

Typically, groups meet weekly (the same day/time) for between 90 minutes and two hours; the group decides this together.

What do groups do during a meeting?

Each time a group meets they spend time building relationships (social), exploring Truth (Bible/study/discussion), and supporting each other in prayer. Groups also share Communion together (after the 8-week starter period), and occasionally substitute the typical meeting for a social outing or a community service opportunity.

What will we study?

All groups begin with Rooted where they will meet at the Journey campus for the initial 11 weeks. From there, groups typically decide together what type of study they will do next. Recommended study tracks are available to group leaders online at insidejourneyrva.com.

How long do groups last?

Community Groups are designed to last 12-24 months, following the 11-week Rooted experience. At the end of Rooted, the groups will decide whether to continue on as a community group for 12-24 months.

How many people are in a group?

Couples groups are composed of 4-6 couples. All other groups are composed of 5-10 individuals.

Where do Community Groups meet?

Typically, 2-3 members of the Community Group will volunteer to host in their home on a rotational basis. The exact locations will be determined once the group forms.