



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 January and September. During this time, all available community groups will be posted online where group seekers can choose which one they would like to join.

How do I join a group?

Visit journeyrva.com/groups during Group Formation Season.

What types of groups are available?

Based on where you are in your faith, we want to help you connect to the appropriate group setting. Click here to see a list of all of our available [group types](#).

What is Open Enrollment?

During our Open Enrollment seasons, existing groups may open up available spots to receive new members who have previously been through Rooted. This period of time correlates with our early and late year Group Formation Seasons and adds a mid-season opportunity as well. Open Enrollment happens in January, May, and September.

What are Growth Groups?

Growth Groups are designed for those who have recently experienced Rooted within 24 months of the current Group Formation Season. Now, individuals have an option for a new or continued group experience which will be a *9-month intentional focus on using our lives to help others experience Jesus*. Growth Groups will not restart with Rooted but launch (or relaunch) with *Life In Rhythm* – A 10-week curriculum designed to empower individuals to establish healthy rhythms of discipleship and live out God's design in the two spheres in which we spend most of our time—work and family. Groups will continue on in the remaining months using a curated list of books and studies to be challenged to grow into disciple-makers. Growth Groups wrap up with a collective celebration with all of the graduating Growth Groups of the season. Our hope is to see Growth Groups inspire and produce future leaders for our various ministry environments. [Learn more](#).

What are Interest Groups?

Interest Groups are groups that form seasonally around a common interest or activity (ie. running, softball, hiking, cycling, motorcycles, etc...). These groups are short-term in nature (3-10 weeks) and focus more on relational connection than spiritual growth. They are designed as an early step toward following Jesus more closely. Interest Groups also provide some entry level leadership opportunities for volunteers. [Learn more](#).

What is Rooted?

Rooted is an 11-week catalytic experience that will jump start or deepen a person's faith and their impact in the world. We've made Rooted the front door to our Community Groups environment, meaning each new one that forms will start first with Rooted. We believe Rooted is the best way for a new group to begin to *connect relationally in order to grow spiritually*. The Rooted experience will deepen your connection with God, His church, and your purpose in God's epic story. Together, in a group of 10-15 people from all walks of life, you'll explore the Bible, engage in prayer and serve experiences, share stories, and practice rhythms essential to a healthy spiritual life. We will provide you with a facilitator who is trained to come alongside your group to help you get the most out of the experience. We offer Rooted twice a year during Group Formation Season.

When do Rooted Groups Meet?

There will be multiple groups to choose from on several different nights of the week. Some groups will meet at the Journey campus for the initial 11 weeks of Rooted, while others will meet virtually. The groups who continue on to become Community Groups will then begin meeting in the homes of the group members or continue on meeting virtually.

Is there a Cost to Rooted?

Similar to the cost of books, dvd's and other curriculum used in traditional community groups, there is a cost to Rooted. The cost is \$25 per person which includes all sessions, your workbook and other materials, and the Celebration at the end of the 10 weeks.

Is Childcare Provided?

Yes, childcare is provided. The cost for childcare is in addition to the \$25 participant fee. The childcare cost is \$55 per individual registering a child that will be paid upfront. This adds up to only \$5 per week for a single adult participant and \$10 per week for a couple checking in children - regardless of the amount of children.

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 deadline, those individuals will be invited to join other available groups prior to the Rooted Launch event.

What is a Mixed group?

A *mixed group* is a group composed 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 dependent 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.