

# CONNECT GROUPS

## ***...So, you want to join a Connect Group.***

**Hello,**

**Thank you so much** for wanting to be a part of a Connect Group here @ Christian Faith Center. One of the most asked questions I have heard is, “How do I find a Connect Group?” Before I answer that frequently asked question, let me give you a little history.

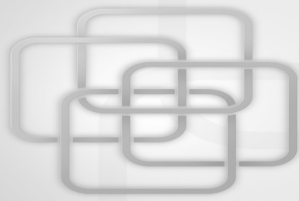
**Over the years**, we have tried many different ways to help people find a Connect Group. We have tried match-making and even waiting lists. Of course, all of these methods assumed that the Church was responsible for making the “match” between the person looking for a Connect Group and the existing groups. However, we have found that this simply doesn’t work. It doesn’t work for you (the person looking for a Connect Group) or for the existing Connect Groups.

**“Why doesn’t it work?”** Well, we have found that the concept just simply goes against the way that relationships develop in our culture...being in a Connect Group is a relationship. If you have ever tried your hand at being a match-maker or even internet dating (for you single folks... of course.), then you know that it is not as easy as it seems and a good “match” is the exception, not the rule. It seems the absolute best way to get involved in a Connect Group is through a relationship.

**So...how do I join a Connect Group if I don’t know anyone?** While there are some Connect Group leaders that open their home to anyone that wants to come, many are invitation-only based on relationship. I have included 3.5 steps to finding a Connect Group...this is really a guide to becoming connected here @ CFC. In addition, we are committed to provide you with resources that help you make yourself a part of this Community we call “Christian Faith Center”. So while we can’t make the “match” for you, we are determined to making this process as easy, as rewarding, and as efficient as possible!

**Pastor Greg**

*The 3.5 steps to finding a Connect Group...*



## The 3.5 steps to finding a Connect Group

### Step 1 Be a “green light”

Are you sending the right message? Have you developed friendships with people at the church? Does anyone know you well enough to invite you into their home? In Proverbs 18:24, it tells us that if we want friends, we must FIRST show ourselves friendly. If you aren't actively showing (which is an action) yourself friendly, you may be sending out a message that is actually opposite of what you intend. Ask yourself this question, “If I were a traffic light, which color would others think I am; red (stop), yellow (caution), or green (GO!)? If you have obeyed this scripture, then you are a “green light” and on your way to becoming a part of a Connect Group!

### Step 2 “OK”... “Places everyone!”... “On the count of 3!”... “Mingle!”

Can't find a Connect Group, because you don't know anyone? Follow these steps!

1. Come early and stay late for Sunday & Wednesday services with the goal to meet at least one person you don't know.
2. Become a part of the family! Get planted at Christian Faith Center by attending the next Membership Class. In Psalms 92:13, it says, “They that are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God.” By becoming a member of the CFC family, not only will you begin to flourish, but it is also a great place to meet and build relationships with other new members just like you and church leaders.
3. Now that you are an official member of CFC, you are ready for the next step. Find an area that is interesting and volunteer. The people that you meet will more than likely become your new friends and you will get a reward in Heaven - all at the same time!
4. Attend non-service church events. Example: The Accelerate Business Seminar, Women's Wordshop (Wednesdays - north & south), the Business Connect group (Tuesdays @ 7 am - in the South cafe), or any of the special events that happen throughout the year. These types of events generally provide more opportunities to meet new people than a typical Sunday morning.

### Step 3 Ask your friends

Do any of your friends or acquaintances attend a Connect Group? Who do you know that attends a Connect Group? Don't be shy! Ask them if you can go with them. Remember what the Bible says in James 4:2, “You have not, because you ask not”. You say, “I don't have any friends that attend a Connect Group!?” Well, it looks like you need some new friends! (Go back to Step 2)

### Step 3.5 If all else fails, contact the leaders that are listed in the “Open Connect Group list”

I am sure that to most people, this last step seems like the most logical “first” step. However, we have seen that the easiest, fastest, and most rewarding way to find a Connect Group is through the people that you already have relationship with.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us @ 1-253-943-2336 or [www.connectgroups@caseytreat.org](mailto:www.connectgroups@caseytreat.org)