



Small Groups at Rainier Avenue Church 2018 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What are Small Groups?

Life Groups are established Small Groups, some of which have been living *life* together for many years. They meet on a varied basis (often every two weeks), study a variety of things (i.e. sermon questions, books of the Bible, etc.) and are often made up of people in similar seasons of life.

Launch Groups are 12 week opportunities to *launch* into the RAC community. They meet every week for a twelve week season (starting each September, January and May), they study the sermon questions, and are made up of a variety of people, sometimes in similar seasons of life, both new and long-time RAC members.

Who are Small Groups for?

Small Groups are for both new and long time RAC attenders. People looking for a short-term commitment and/or wanting to try out a Small Group before making a longer commitment might enjoy joining a Launch Group first.

What do Small Groups study/do?

Life Groups and **Launch Groups**:

- Study the word of God (through sermon questions, Bible studies, etc.)
- Pray
- Share a meal/snacks
- Support and care one another
- Have fun together in fellowship
- Serve others by showing compassion and justice

Where/When do Small Groups meet?

Life Groups meet at a host's house (either a group leader or member) or at the church. They meet at a variety of times during the week. Contact Pastor Mark at mnsimbi@rainieravenuechurch.org for more information about Life Group meeting times.

Launch Groups meet at a host's house (either a group leader or member) or at the church. They meet at a variety of times during the week. Sign up for a time that works best for you at <https://rainieravenuechurch.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/55/responses/new> or in the RAC lobby on Sundays during one of the three sign up periods (August, December and April) and a small group leader will get back to you.

Will there be childcare?

Many groups have childcare, however each group needs to arrange and pay for its own childcare (e.g. find a childcare worker, coordinate the logistics). The church will provide \$20 per meeting in assistance for childcare if needed. When you sign up for a Small Group, please indicate if you are looking for a group with childcare. If you are in need of recommendations please feel free to contact [Pastor Mark](#).

How do I sign up for a Small Group?

Life Groups: Enrollment is open and rolling all year. To get more information about open groups you can contact Pastor Mark.

Launch Groups: Throughout the year there are three sign-up periods (August, December and April). You can sign up during these times:

- <https://rainieravenuechurch.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/55/responses/new>
- In the RAC lobby on Sundays

What happens after a Launch Group meets for 12 weeks?

At the end of the 12 weeks, the group Leader will facilitate a discussion about what the group will do next. The group / members have the following options:

- *Meet again as a Launch Group* - Meet again for another 12 weeks, after taking a one month break. Some or all of the members could join the next cycle (the leader could be the same or change).
- *Become a Life Group* - Some or all of the members could transition into a Life Group that meets on an ongoing basis. (The leader could be the same or change for the Life Group.)
- *Complete its time as a Launch Group* - The group can finish meeting after the 12 weeks. Individual members or the leader can sign up for another group in the future.

Who are the Small Group Leaders?

Life Groups leaders are recruited by the church and/or form their own organic groups. The leaders receive periodic training and support from RAC. Some Life Groups Leaders serve mainly as coordinators, and leadership/facilitation of each group meeting rotates between members.

Launch Groups leaders are recruited by the church. They will receive training and support related to Launch Groups during the month before the Launch Group starts. (August, December and April).

We need more leaders! If you are interested in serving as a Small Group Leader please contact Pastor Mark at mnsimbi@rainieravenuechurch.org or 206.604.9779