



2023 Fall Dinner Groups

Here is the website for all the items below: [WEBSITE](https://www.downtownjc.church/dinner-group-links) (<https://www.downtownjc.church/dinner-group-links>)

Before and at your first or second group:

- Decide on a weekly day, time, and place (or places) to meet.
- Create a plan for communication (text, email, app, etc...).
- Make this group a priority. It's a 9 week group, you can do this! Its important that the group commits to meet together each week by using the Dinner Group Covenant. This commitment will help you push through on weeks that you are tired, and help you set boundaries for your work schedule.

What you do at Dinner Group:

- Each non-event week, your goal is to do 3 things:
 1. Spend time catching up with one another (hopefully over food).
 2. Walk through the weekly questions provided by DCC (anyone can do this).
 3. Pray at the end.
- Commit to a set length of time for your group.
 - We ask that groups do not go longer than 90 minutes. This is a way to love one another.
 - Prayer at the end:
 - Be sensitive to the needs of your group when asking someone to pray.
 - Its ok to keep this short, especially if you are near the 90-minute mark.
 - If your group wants to pray more some weeks, leave a little time at the end.
 - If you ask for Prayer requests, keep your requests brief. (just one or two sentences). If you have an urgent need, mention it near the beginning of group.
- Event Weeks (2 types)
 - Monthly Connection Week: Instead of meeting over questions, each group picks a DCC event to attend this week or create your own. It does not have to be on the night your group meets. These events are very important.
 - Serve week: Each group can pick a DCC event to serve at together or create your own serving event for others to join.

Group Conversation

Remember, you are in a group, not a therapy session. We are called to care for one another in scripture, so sharing is important, but we do so understanding the context of the group. Here are dynamics to think about when it comes to sharing:

- **One-on-one meeting** over coffee: A setting to share longer needs and stories. This can be more about you *and* the other person.
- **Group:** A place to share needs and common interests, but much different than a coffee meeting. This isn't just about you. If you don't like to talk, find a way to contribute each week. If you love to talk, find times to listen first. Ask questions.
- **Counseling:** This is just about you. A place to work through deeper issues of your heart.