

The Mystery of the Sunday Afternoon Meetings

by Ong Hon Yuh



Prologue

Every Sunday afternoon, a group of 10 people gather in Trinity Methodist Church to study the Bible, share their lives, and pray for one other. The group was primarily started to help ALPHA participants continue in their journey with Jesus. New members who were inspired by the Spirit to seek out a small group to join were also welcomed.

Why would they sacrifice a precious Sunday afternoon snooze for this purpose? Why would a group of strangers with nothing in common be willing to share their lives so openly with others?

Chapter 1 - Don Sng

Why did I decide to join a small group in the first place? It is one of the best ways to explore the Christian faith and the word of God. It has been three months since and it has been a great experience! To join a regular Bible study group has helped in my belief that the message of the Bible is real and relevant to our lives today. There is also the opportunity to ask our own questions in a very relaxed atmosphere. The group support has been wonderful. Thank you to the small group leaders and friends for their sharing and prayers.

Chapter 2 - Matthew Ho

I joined the group this year after the ALPHA Course (which was the time I met some nice brothers and sisters-in-Christ who are also now in the small group). I can say they are like my "kawan" (friend in Malay). When I had difficulties or down periods, they were the ones who cheered me up and helped me move on in life. I am very grateful to them for giving me the courage to stand firm.

I joined the small group not only to be "social" but also to learn about Christ and the Bible even better. I really thank God for blessing me with good brothers and sisters-in-Christ so that I am able to stay positive in life! Amen!



To find out the answers, contact Park Ming at parkming@tmc.org.sg. If you wish to learn more about small groups at TMC, go to www.tmc.org.sg/smallgroup.html.

Chapter 3 - Adrian Man & Colleen Ngo

The reasons why we joined a Small Group are:

- To have a deeper understanding and more meaningful spiritual walk with close brothers and sister
- It's good to be part of a group so that we can encourage and strengthen each other when in times of doubt or need
- It's what the Bible advises us to do :)
- Because we knew that Hon Yuh and Park Ming were leading this ;)

Chapter 4 - Yvonne Su & Justin Ong

Justin and I had been attending Sunday service regularly at Ang Mo Kio Methodist Church but had always felt that this alone was a superficial way to be closer to God. I was especially concerned for Justin, since he was a non-Christian at the time and was just accompanying me to church. I was not sure if he understood the sermons or if I had been able to answer his queries about Christianity to his satisfaction.



So I suggested that we go for the ALPHA Course at TMC. It was during the course that Justin and I discovered more about God and grew closer to some of the participants. We also started attending Sunday services at TMC instead. Thanks to Park Ming and Hon Yuh's follow up, our small group was formed and we were able to have regular Bible studies to better understand the New Testament. Justin also accepted Christ as his Saviour.

Chapter 5 - David Lee

I have always found small groups edifying, supportive, providing fellowship and interaction without intimidation. The term "Small Group" speaks for itself: small in number, lots of privacy and trust, and plentiful time for each to share. Also, I tend to learn a lot more of God's Word in a small group setting than through self-study.

Epilogue

In the end, it was God who brought this band of brothers and sisters together, and indeed God will lead these disciples toward a deeper and more meaningful relationship with Him and His people.

Having solved the mystery of the Sunday afternoon meetings, a few questions remain unanswered. For example, what is the name of this small group? Do they welcome members? What do I do if I want to join this small group? Last but not least, what do the members look like?!



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