

# THE HISTORIC METHODIST CLASS MEETING

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The **purpose** of the class meeting/small group is *transformation*.

**The guiding question to help is this:**

“How is your life with God?” or “*How is it with your soul?*”

Remember, this group is for *accountability* and *encouragement*. This is not a Bible study! These are not complaining, gossiping, nor exclusive groups. I hope you will invite others to join you safely.

The **content** of the meeting is *your* life with God, not someone else’s.

## **SIMPLE FORMAT TO FOLLOW**

1. Each person will answer the question, “How is your life with God?”  
This is the time to share how you are with God. You may reflect on your struggles or how you sense you need to grow in the Lord. You may share how you have experienced God this past week or how you heard and followed the Lord’s voice in following Jesus or serving others. You may confess how you’ve done harm, how you are striving to do good or what disciplines you are practicing or need to practice. It’s all up to you!
2. After all have shared, you are then encouraged to pray for each other, especially with how you will be moving toward growth and change between now and the next time you meet.
3. At your next small group meeting, when you share about your life with God, you can consider how the past week went with how you sought to grow and be changed by God’s grace in the days to come. This is where accountability and testimony can really be practiced!

## **SOME REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS...**

- Expect cultural change from information-driven study to a focus on transformation through your relationship with Jesus and his grace in your life.
- Expect this *weekly* small group to be high in priority in your life.
- Expect to answer the question, “How is your life with God?” and plan to act and share in next meeting.

- You are expected to pray together. You are expected to listen to each other and not judge. It's not your job to fix the other person.
- You are not expected to share your deepest, darkest secrets and troubles.
- Don't expect your group to be perfect, so don't let perfect be the enemy of good.
- Don't expect to dominate the conversation. Be aware of letting others share.
- You are not expected to be perfect, but you are expected to see perfection in Christian love. We are all on the same journey together, but at different places in the journey!
- You are not expected to have all the answers, so don't act like it. 😊
- You are expected to be challenged to grow in your faith and be transformed by the grace of God.

### **THE KEY TO A SUCCESSFUL GROUP**

- YOU and your desire to grow in perfect love as a disciple of Jesus!
- Listening to each other and offering encouragement and support.
- Consistently being present and engaged.
- Being prepared to answer the guiding question.
- Inviting others to join you.

### **GROUP MEETING TIME**

- Groups will determine:
  - Meeting time, date, and location
- Each meeting will have a video to follow which will include a welcome, prayer, music, scripture reading, devotional and a time of sharing.

### **GENERAL RULES**

1. Do no harm
2. Do good
3. Stay in love with God (Practice the Christian Disciplines)

### **GROUP INFO**

Please let Pastor Wesley know the names of those meeting in your group and when and where you plan to meet via email at [wesocraig@gmail.com](mailto:wesocraig@gmail.com) by June 3.