



Here's what we know about men's groups: They don't work the same as women's groups or the same as couples groups. And when we try to make them work the same, they usually don't last.

We also know men's groups are important. But there's got to be a better way!

So we spent over a year praying, talking with guys just like you, and brainstorming how we can provide the best men's group experience possible. And God gave us a fresh vision for what men's groups can look like at Brazos Fellowship. For the past six months we've been testing out this new way of doing men's groups and it has gone remarkably well.

Here's what we've discovered:

- Groups of 3-4 men work best. If possible it's good to have 3-4 men who already know and trust each other. We know that's not always possible, so we're going to provide opportunities from time to time to connect with other men.
- Meeting consistently is imperative. We know things come up sometimes that make it impossible, but meeting once a week works best. Meetings shouldn't last longer than one hour.
- It doesn't require one person to be the leader. It just requires one person to say, "let's do this!"
- Simpler is better. So we've created a framework that is simple to follow every time the group meets. Here's what that framework looks like:

## Framework for Men's Groups

1. Choose a passage of scripture to read each week. The easiest thing is to go through a book of the Bible and read a chapter or two a week. Guys should read this on their own during the week. A couple of things we recommend:
  - Start with the gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John)
  - Everybody use a Life Application Study Bible
2. When you meet you'll talk through four questions as they relate to the scripture from that week. You can see more information about these questions on the next page, but here they are:
  - Who is God?
  - What does God do?
  - Who am I?
  - What will I do?
3. The last of those four questions is really the application question—What are you going to do? This is where accountability comes in as everybody should have an action plan for what they are going to do in light of the scripture passage.
4. Pray together. You can do this as an entire group or break into smaller groups of two. During your prayer time everybody will ask three questions. These questions will guide your prayer time as you pray for each other:
  - What do I need to start doing?
  - What do I need to stop doing?
  - What do I need to keep doing?
5. Dismiss. But keep in touch throughout the week to check in with each other and ask how they're doing with what they said they need to start, stop, and keep doing.

## Let's Get Started!

When you're ready to get started, ask 2 or 3 other guys to get started with you and follow the framework provided. Simple as that! If you need some help finding some other guys be watching because we're going to provide an opportunity this spring to meet other guys looking for the same thing. Let us know when you get started! Email [groupconnections@brazosfellowship.com](mailto:groupconnections@brazosfellowship.com)

## The Four Questions

		Example: Genesis 1
Who is God?	always answered in scripture	The Creator
What has God done?	always answered in scripture	He Created all things
Who am I?	always answered in scripture	God's Creation...created in the image of God
What will I do?	you have to answer this one	<i>How does this (who God is, what God's done, your identity as a result of who God is and what God's done) change the way you live?</i>

### Who is God?

- Start with God: How is God's character and nature revealed in what we're reading?
- Look for specific references to his attributes (Exodus 34:5-7)
- Look for implied references to his attributes (Acts 5:1-6)
- Always start with God when you approach scripture (too often we immediately look to see how this applies to our lives...we start with us. It's not our story—it's his)

### What has God done?

- What does the text say about the work of God?
- The person and work of Jesus is revealed on every page of the Bible (Luke 24:27)
- So we look for the character and nature of God...then we look at the work of God

### Who am I?

- What does the text say about your identity?
- Note the things that are true of God's people in the text
  - a. 2 Cor. 1:19-22
  - b. Who is God? **Faithful** to his promise
  - c. What has he done? **Fulfilled promise** in Jesus and he's **given us his Spirit**
  - d. Who are we? As believers we are all **anointed with God's Spirit**, and because of Jesus we are all **part of God's royal priesthood**, set apart for special service to God
- So we start with God—who he is, what he's done—then we discover the truth about who we are in light of who God is and what God's done.

### What will I do?

- In light of this, how does it change the way we live?
- We almost always start here: "How does this apply to my life?"
- Rightly motivated, gospel-centered action flows out of an understanding of who God is, what he's done, and who we are in light of who he is and what he's done.
- So we start with God...then we end with this question: what will I do?