

Grace Groups

Growing in Grace and Watching Over One Another in Love

What is a Grace Group?

Grace Groups are small communities of 6 to 8 people who meet weekly to grow deeper in faith and watch over one another in love. They are a place to be honest about your faith journey, to notice where God is at work, and to pray for each other. The format is simple, the conversation is real, and over time these become the people who know your story.

A Grace Group IS	A Grace Group is NOT
✓ A place to be honest about your faith	✗ A Bible study or lecture
✓ A community that watches over one another in love	✗ A therapy group
✓ Real conversation and shared prayer	✗ A place to fix each other's problems
✓ A rhythm you can count on each week	✗ A drop-in event

1. Center

Open with prayer or a moment of silence. Take a breath. Let the week fall away.

God of seed and soil, open our eyes to the growth we have missed. Help us notice where you have been at work, in our lives, in this community, and in the places we have stopped looking. Teach us to trust the mystery. Amen.

2. Soul Tending

Check in with where you are spiritually. The five promises help us find our way into the conversation:

- **Prayers** — How is your prayer life?
- **Presence** — How has worship shaped your week?
- **Gifts** — Where are you giving your time, money, or energy?
- **Service** — Where are you serving right now?
- **Witness** — Where have you lived your faith out loud?

Pick the one or two that feel most alive, or most stuck, right now.

3. God Sightings

Share something from this week where you noticed God moving, in your life, in someone else's, or in the world around you. Big or small, it counts.

4. Growing in Grace

Name something you are carrying, a decision, a fear, a next step you have been avoiding. The group is not here to fix it. Just to hear it, sit with you in it, and pray.

5. Close

- Each person shares one prayer need in a sentence.
- Someone in the group prays for them out loud.
- Keep it simple. Hold the hard things to the light.

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Grace Group Guide • Mark 4:26-29 • June 7, 2026

Tending the Soul, Week 2 · Communion Sunday · Noticing the Growth

Setting the Scene. In one of his shortest parables, Jesus compares the kingdom of God to a farmer who scatters seed and then goes about ordinary life. The seed sprouts and grows, but the farmer does not know how. First the stalk, then the head, then the full head of grain, and finally the farmer recognizes the harvest.

Center

God of seed and soil, open our eyes to the growth we have missed. Help us notice where you have been at work, in our lives, in this community, and in the places we have stopped looking. Teach us to trust the mystery. Amen.

Soul Tending

- Of the five practices, prayers, presence, gifts, service, witness, which feels most alive right now and which is dim?
- Where has your attention drifted this past week, and what is that attention growing in you?
- When did you last tell someone what God is doing in your life, and what kept you from telling sooner?

God Sightings

- Look back over the last six months. What changed in you that you did not manufacture and cannot fully explain?
- Where have you noticed God growing something good in someone close to you while they were not looking?
- What stalk-stage growth in your life are you tempted to dismiss because it is not yet a full harvest?

Growing in Grace

- Which question are you mostly living in this week, the measuring question or the noticing question?
- What is one small step of telling, to a friend, family member, or coworker, that names what God is doing?
- Who in your life needs to hear that God is growing something good, and what would your first sentence sound like?

Close

Each person shares one prayer need in a sentence. Then someone prays for them out loud. Trust that God is already at work in the soil.

The harvest is closer than you think. Grow with us at mcpersonfirst.org/next.

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