**Why I enjoy going to House Group…**

*‘It helps me to grow in my faith.’*

‘I value the fellowship and support of my fellow Christians.’

*‘I gain a deeper knowledge of the Bible, which I would not achieve on my own.’*

‘I always enjoy the Friday Bible study because you learn so many surprising things.’

*‘I really like House Group. It helps answer a lot of questions and encourages me to reflect more…’*



**HOUSE**

**GROUPS**

**What is a House Group?**

A House Group is a group of people from the church who get together midweek and enjoy fellowship, prayer and Bible study. Some of the groups meet in the leader’s home, some of the groups meet in one of the Church meeting rooms.

**How often do they meet?**

Most of the groups meet every other week and the dates and times vary according to the group, which we hope will provide enough flexibility for you to find one that suits your weekly schedule. The groups quite often take an extended break around Christmas, Easter and August.

**What do you do in them?**

On the whole, we have a cup of tea and cake or biscuits, to get us started. Then we open in prayer, read a passage from the Bible, and discuss and share amongst ourselves what that passage is trying to teach us in order to strengthen and deepen our Christian lives and relationship with God. We usually close in prayer.

**Why would I want to come to a House Group?**

* To study the Bible
* To pray with other like-minded Christians
* To get to know people better in our Christian family
* To deepen our faith in God

**Is there flexibility about which group I attend?**

There is no obligation to go to a House Group. If you don’t feel particularly comfortable in a House Group you might like to try a different one. Or perhaps start a new House Group.

**Do I need to commit to coming every time the group runs?**

Not necessarily. You will get out of a House Group what you put in… We all have different work, family and social commitments, so there will occasionally be times when you can’t make it, but that shouldn’t stop you coming along to a House Group. As leaders of the House Groups, we will always be glad to see you whenever you can come.

**When do they happen?**

At present there are 3 different House Groups happening in the Church.

1. Every other Tuesday – 10.30am-12.30pm. Berrylands. Leaders – John & Olga Wickenden. (Discussion using Bible Reading Fellowship Notes)
2. 2nd & 4th Tuesday evenings of the month, 7.45pm for an 8pm start, till 9.30pm. Tolworth area. Leader – Clare Mannall. (In-depth Bible study and Fellowship)
3. Every other Friday, from 1.30pm to 3pm. St Mark’s Church. Leader – Jackie Robbs. (In-depth Bible study and Fellowship)

For specific dates please check the Pew Sheet.

**What if I can’t make any of those?**

There are other short Bible study and discussion courses that happen during the year – do look out for them on the Church newsletter.

Alternatively, perhaps you would like to start up a new House Group? If that is the case then please speak to Rev Robert Stanier, one of the House Group leaders, or contact Clare Chesterman in the Church Office.

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