

FAQs

4th and 5th Grade MB Kids Life Groups

What are God's Girls and Fishers of Men groups?

Life or small groups made up of 4th or 5th graders with moms or dads. They are mother/daughter and father/son groups that meet for the school year to study the Bible, discuss pre-teen real life concerns, and serve and play together.

Why would we join a group?

Mt. Bethel is known for these cool small groups of pre-teen kids with their moms and dads. In fact, we were featured in a magazine article for our innovative groups. Late elementary-aged children benefit from participating with their parent, forming friendships with church kids, and getting to know other influential adults. Meeting discussions will cover issues from a Biblical perspective for their stage in life as they begin to enter middle school.

Who can join a group?

Fourth and fifth graders with their mom or dad make up the groups. Friends from outside the church may join with a parent as well.

When, where, and how often do they meet?

The Fishers of Men groups usually meet outside at church or a backyard. The God's Girls groups have met in a church room, but will not be able to do that this year. They should plan to meet outside or in a backyard of a home.

Each life group sets their own schedule – every week or every other week – usually on Sunday afternoon or evening. It is best to avoid holidays, school breaks, and big church event weekends. The groups are a school-year commitment. Most 4th grade groups stay together through 5th grade as well.

Must the parent commit to attend with the child?

Yes, the life groups are parent/child. A parent's commitment to the group shows the child the emphasis on growing in the Christian faith at this important time of their life. In case of sickness, etc. the child can attend with another adult in the group.

How do I choose a group?

MB Kids will do our very best to find a group that you will be comfortable with. Parents that have experienced these life groups with an older sibling may be eager to get started and ask around for members. But don't wait to be asked; email and declare your interest. Most

years, we have two God's Girls groups and one Fishers of Men group form in 4th grade. Sometimes it is possible to join an existing group in 5th grade, depending on the size. New 5th grade groups can be formed if there is enough interest. The MB North campus can form groups or join with MB East Cobb groups.

Should all the kids attend the same school?

That's not necessary at all. In fact, some of our strongest groups have been mixed school groups that have stayed together for many years. If a family from outside the church wants to participate, they may want to be placed with someone they know previously.

Besides the meetings, what else do the groups do?

A yearly schedule should include some local mission opportunities and fun fellowship outings for the groups to do together. Most groups like to attend SCREAM retreat in the spring and stay together in the same room.

What about single parents, such as a mom with a son?

Ideally, a single parent should find a trusted adult or family member of the same gender to attend with their child. Sometimes this is not possible, and the single parent will attend with their kid.

Contact becky.tolbert@mtbethel.org for questions and sign-up.