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# Academy CHRISTIAN

## CONNECT GUIDE

SPIRITUAL FORMATION FOR ADULTS

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**Winter/Spring 2025** Updated 2.16.25

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**Locations or times for groups may change after the printing of this guide, and some groups may have reached capacity. Prior to visiting a Connect Group for the first time, please contact the leader or church office.**

**For current updates on Connect Groups, visit [www.academychristian.org/connect](http://www.academychristian.org/connect).**

**For more information and registration visit [www.academychristian.org/myacc](http://www.academychristian.org/myacc).**

# PASTORAL INVITATION

Dear Spiritual Sojourner,

The guide you are looking at is filled with opportunities to Connect and Grow as a follower of Jesus. Knowing, loving, and serving Him is our greatest life privilege and our intent is to assist you in order to do that more effectively.

This guide is packed with so many opportunities that you might be wondering where do I go, and how do I get there? To assist you in discerning your connect group decision, along with the overview of all the Connect options at ACC, we're providing a tool that may assist you in "What's MY Next Step?"

This semester we are offering four specific tracks that should be helpful in directing your steps to a path that fits your specific season or situation in life.

- There's a track for those new to Christ or to ACC.
- There's a home and family track for doing life under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.
- There's a track for those who are spiritually discipling other believers---or desire to be disciplined.
- There's an impact track for changing the world and reaching the lost.

We encourage you to select the track that best matches your current faith walk and then move forward to what is "My Next Step."

Be blessed and be a blessing,

Bryan Myers

# NEXT STEPS

## CONNECT

### **Baptism Class**

If you would like to follow Christ in believer's baptism, please contact the pastor of your choice for one-on-one instruction on baptism.

### **Getting to Know ACC Class**

Take one hour to get introduced to ACC, and ask some questions of your own. Offered five times a year from 4-5 PM on Sundays and held next on Mar 16 and May 4.

### **Membership Class**

Meet the pastors, learn the vision and mission of ACC, and what it means to be a member. It's the next step for greater involvement and is offered five times a year. Next class is 3-5 PM on Sunday, April 13.

## GROW

### **Rooted: Duos, Trios, Quads**

Be discipled or disciple others in an intimate setting with 1, 2, or 3 others in a 10-week Rooted course to help establish spiritual life rhythms. For info, call Pastors Dave or Kathleen.





## LIFE AND FAMILY TRACK

### Dads to Dads

Proud father of his recent-born third child, Pastor Taylor Downs is launching a new support group for young fathers. This will be an enriching time of fellowship and encouragement to address the tough roles of being husband and father. Enjoy the added benefit of shared wisdom, mutual accountability and prayer.



### GriefShare

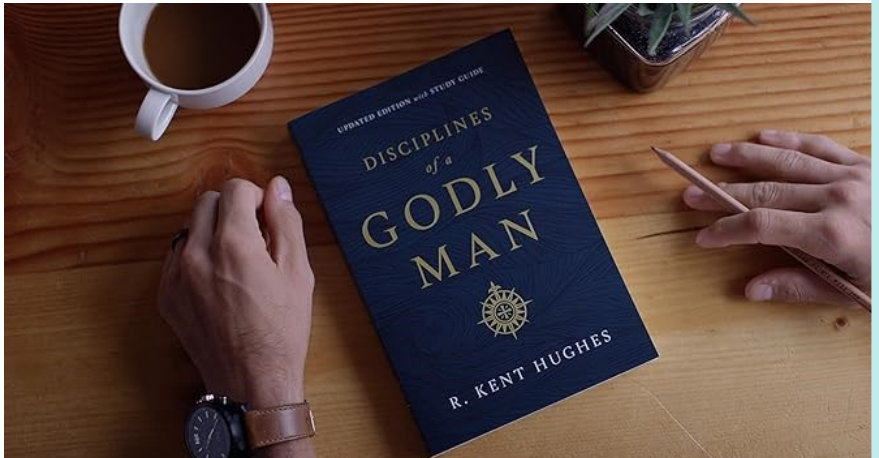
Have you lost someone precious to you? This small group encounter will help lead you through the important and challenging experience of grief, beginning Mon Jan 27 through April 21, at 6:30 PM.

### Parent/Child Faith & Baptism Class

This interactive class explains faith, baptism and communion. The purpose of the class is to assist families in assessing the timing of their child's walk with Jesus and to think through what it is to respond to Him. 11 AM Sun April 6 Attend the class and be ready to make a big splash on our next Baptism Night, Sunday, April 27.

### Re | Engage

This marriage enrichment class will begin January 15, and run through May 14.



# SPIRITUAL FORMATION

## Discipleship at ACC has many designs!

Along with the treasure of being in an ABF or Life Group...you might also consider... a Discipleship Journey and/or Short Term Mission endeavors as key parts of your spiritual development.

So...Be alert to the opportunities that are offered around the calendar. These are publicly announced.

For example:

- March 4-21, 2025 Did you know that 25 people from ACC are embarking on a Discipleship Journey to Turkey/Greece, following the trail of the Apostles Paul and John. As we visit the historic locations and ruins, the scriptures of Acts, Letters of Paul, and the Revelation of John come to life and deepen our faith. *(team is now assembled)*
- May 24-June 7 Short term mission trip to Kenya. *(team is now assembled)*
- August 13-19 Short term mission trip to Ecuador. *(team **is still being formed**)*

Here's the point. There are many key experiences available that draw us out of our comfort zone and into a space where the Lord invites us into a deeper walk with Him. Though some of the above trips are full or happening right now...keep your eyes open for the new encounters as they come...and take advantage of 'Growing in Christ'. We just want you to be aware of the kinds of experiences available to you through ACC.

## New ABF— Sunday at 6:00p!!



**A NEW ABF for adults of any age**  
led by Mike Folkerts and Kevin  
Seay.

**Sunday nights, 6p, in room A4**

# SUNDAY ABFs

Adult Bible Fellowships (ABFs) meet Sundays for focus on Bible learning and relationships. Prayer connection and life encouragement are important parts of the design of ABFs.



## 8 AM ABFs



### Explorers 8 AM

Leaders: Bob Eaton, John Oswald, & Rob Wilson

Location: ACC, A6

Makeup: Multi-Gen, 40s-70s

Topic: Exodus

## 9:30 AM ABFs



### #4Family

Leaders: Dave & Julie Mintz, Michael and Karen Flaherty

Location: ACC, L5

# SUNDAY ABFs



## 9:30 ABFs (cont.)

### Digging Deeper



Leaders: John Boska &  
Larry Lawrence  
Location: ACC, A6  
Makeup: Multi-Gen, 30s-70s  
Topic: Hebrews

### Discovery



Leaders: John Hickman &  
Gerald "Chief" Rendel  
Location: ACC, L1  
Makeup: 60s+  
Topic: Hebrews



### Explorers 9:30 AM

Leaders: Bill Walter, Bruce Wadman,  
Kevin Daugherty & VJ James  
Location: ACC, L6  
Makeup: Open to All Adults  
Topic: Minor Prophets



### Golden Eagles

Leaders: Craig Campbell & Larry  
Izenbart  
Location: ACC, A2  
Makeup: 60s - 80s  
Contemporary Christian Topics



### The Master Class

Kathleen Fast & Edmund Miranda  
Location: ACC, L2  
Makeup: Twenty-Somethings  
Topic: Sermon on the Mount



### Open Arms

Leader: Dawn McClung  
Location: ACC, A7  
Makeup: Multi-Gen, 30s - 80s  
Topic: TBD



### Road to Emmaus

Leaders: Carol Norris & Dick Crabtree  
Location: ACC, A4  
Makeup: 60s+  
Topic: Genealogy of Jesus



# SUNDAY ABFs

## 11:00 ABFs



### **Family Foundations**

Leaders: Rick & Brenda  
McKee/Stephen & Step  
hanie Savage/Derrick & Eliza  
beth Harper

Location: ACC, L6

Makeup: Couples with  
pre-schoolers

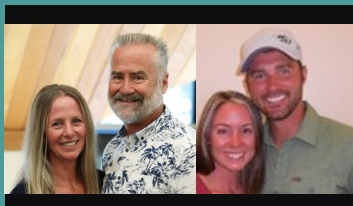


# MIDWEEK LIFE GROUPS

Life Groups meet during the week, have multiple designs and formats—all meant to help form relationships. Within these relationships, biblical teaching, community, healthy accountability, and encouragement can be found. These groups also seek to engage in meaningful ministry together.



## SUNDAY LIFE GROUPS



### **Family Discipleship**

Kevin & Tami Good

Kreg & Keleigh Kell

1102 Glengary Place, 80921

Sunday 2x/month, 5:30 PM

Makeup: Young Families

Topic: Discipling Families

## MONDAY LIFE GROUPS



### **GriefShare**

Bill & Cindy Walter, Marcy Tourville

ACC. NSC, A2

Monday, 6:30 PM

Makeup: Those Who are Grieving

Topic: Grief, 13 weeks begins Jan 27



### **Applequist**

CJ & Diane Applequist,

Applequist Home, 719-325-9139

Monday 7:00-9:00 PM

Makeup: Young Couples

Topic: The Gospel in Context

No childcare, but kids welcome



# MIDWEEK LIFE GROUPS

## TUESDAY LIFE GROUPS



### **Dodge**

Todd & Angela Dodge  
9320 Stoneglen Drive, 80920  
Tuesday, 6:30 PM (2nd and 4th)  
Makeup: Parents of Adult Children  
Topic: TBD



### **Erickson/Downes**

Dave & Paula Erickson  
Stan & Donna Downes  
9725 Otero Avenue, 80920  
Tuesday, 7 PM  
Makeup: Open to All Adults  
Topic: TBD



### **Gaby**

Bob & Lisa Gaby  
2242 Coyote Crest Drive, 80921  
Tuesday, 6:30 PM  
Makeup: Open to All Adults  
Topic: TBD



### **Hagopian**

Emilie Hagopian  
1330 Kelly Johnson 1-308, 80920  
Tuesday, 7:00 PM  
Makeup: Adults 20s and early 30s  
Topic: Biblical Leadership/Servant Heart



### **Lobban/Ferguson**

Jim Lobban & Don Ferguson  
Life Group Member Homes  
Tuesday, 6:30 PM (1st and 3rd Tues)  
Makeup: Empty Nesters, 50s+  
Topic: Everybody Always by Goff



### **Smith**

Dave and Charlyn Smith  
Rotating Homes  
Tuesday, 6-8 PM  
10 Makeup: 50s-60s, Empty Nesters  
Topic: Various Studies

# WEDNESDAY LIFE GROUPS

## **Boomers**

David & Karin Sleeper  
ACC, L1  
Wednesday, 6:30 PM (2nd and 4th)  
Makeup: Empty Nesters  
Topic: The Chosen, Season 4



## **Cliff**

Shawn & Stacy Cliff  
ACC, A6  
Wednesday, 6:30 PM  
Makeup: 50+  
Topic: Job



## **Eaton**

Bob & Cathie Eaton  
Briargate Area  
Wednesday, 6 PM  
Makeup: All Adults  
Topic: TBD



## **Single Moms**

Tami Gale  
ACC, L2  
Wednesday, 6:15-8 PM  
Makeup: Single Moms  
Topic: Boundaries

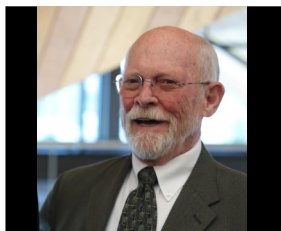


## **Westlake**

Donna & Wally Westlake  
7750 Conifer Drive, 80920  
Wednesday, 6-8 PM  
Makeup: Open to All Adults  
Topic: Various Bible Studies  
Child Care Available—Elementary+



# THURSDAY LIFE GROUPS



## **Byars**

Bill Byars  
16059 Bridle Ridge Drive, 80132  
Thursday, 6 PM  
Makeup: Empty Nesters, 50+  
Topic: The Great Disappearance



## **Newkirk**

Paul & Donise Newkirk  
18720 Spring Valley Road, 80132  
Thursday, 7 PM  
Makeup: Open to All Adults  
Topic: TBD



## **The Armory**

Kathleen Fast  
ACC, L2  
Thursday, 6:30-8 PM  
Makeup: Young Adults, 18-35  
Topic: Epistles of Paul

# FRIDAY LIFE GROUPS



## **Friday Night Bible Study**

Brad Harper & Will Scott  
Various Homes  
Friday, 7:00 PM  
Makeup: Mixed Ages, mostly 50+  
Topic: Bible Books/Topical Studies



## **Hamm Family Small Group**

Jacob & Kimber Hamm  
10264 Kentwood Drive, 80924  
Friday, 5:30-7:30 PM (1st and 3rd)  
Makeup: Young Families  
Topic: Living Life Together, Prayer  
and Fellowship

# YOUNG ADULTS

Navigating your 20's?  
Facing questions of identity,  
calling, and meaning? Then  
you have found a great  
community that's pursuing  
Jesus together!

Join us Sunday mornings  
at 9:30 AM in L2 for our ABF  
**Master's Class** and on  
Thursday nights at 6:30 PM  
in L2 for the fellowship and  
timely discussions of our  
Life Group - **The Armory**.

## Young & Hungry?

Come enjoy a free lunch  
and home cooking from  
noon-1 PM in A3,  
Sundays Mar 2, Mar 30

## Eagle Lake Workday, May 2 and 3

# Academy

YOUNG ADULTS

## ARMORY

6:30 PM THURSDAYS ROOM L2

The place to prepare for spiritual battles.  
Expect lively discussions of Bible topics, apologetics,  
worldview, and making the jump into adulthood - coupled  
with friendship, fellowship, and occasional game nights!



# WOMEN'S MINISTRY



Academy  
WOMEN

## WEDNESDAY AM STUDIES

9:30-11:30 AM Wednesdays  
Child Care available  
with Registration

### **Bible Recap: New Testament**

By Tara-Leigh Cobble  
Led by Dianna Jones/Vicki Keller  
ACC A2

### **Luke in the Land**

By Kristi McClelland  
Led by Kathleen Fast  
ACC L2

### **Revelation—Eternal King, Everlasting Kingdom**

By Jen Wilkins  
Led by Liz Ramsey  
ACC A6

## WEDNESDAY PM STUDY

6:15-8 PM Wednesdays  
Child Care available  
with Registration

### **Boundaries**

By Townsend and Cloud  
Barb Collins  
ACC L2

## THURSDAY PM STUDY

6:30-8:30 PM

### **Knowing Jesus as Savior**

By Tara-Leigh Cobble  
Led by Kelly Poirier  
Offsite: Village Coop



# SOCIAL AND SUPPORT GROUPS

## Deployed, But Not Alone

Even though your husband is deployed, you don't have to face it alone. Let ACC support you and your family by connecting you with adopted Grandparents who can provide prayer, meals, community, and weekly encouragement for both you and your children while your husband is away.

## Fit for His Service

ACC L2  
Wednesdays, 8:00-9:00 AM  
If you could use some extra encouragement and support on your journey to biblical and physical fitness, join this group for added accountability.

## Mom to Moms

Led by Vicki Wise  
ACC A3 and L4  
Wednesday, 9:30-11:30 AM  
Moms of preschoolers can enjoy adult conversation about *Habits of the Household* while their littles learn about Jesus.

## Single Moms

Led by Tami Gale  
ACC L2  
Wednesday, 6:15-8 PM  
Enjoy a meal and fellowship with moms walking the same road of parenting alone.. Join the Boundaries Bible study.

## Single Sisters

Led by Mary Park  
ACC A4  
Thursday, 1-3 PM (2nd & 4th)  
Makeup: Single, widowed, or divorced women of all ages

## Sisters in Stitches

Hosted by Carol Norris  
2nd Saturday, 9:00 to noon.  
A fun, encouraging environment to work on various sewing projects while visiting with other ladies. Call church office for address.

## Soul Sisters

Be matched in a 1-to-1 intergenerational relationship as a disciple or discipler for mutual spiritual enrichment.



# MEN'S MINISTRY

Academy  
MEN

**WORTHY  
OPPONENTS!**

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Men's Breakfasts

ACC Student Center  
8-9:30 AM

#### January 4, 2025

Speaker: Mark Poirier  
"Seeing the Lord's Plan Through  
Life's Trials"

#### February 1, 2025

Speaker: Bill Byars  
"Life Detours"

#### March 1, 2025

Speaker: Joe Foster  
"I Need Thee, Every Hour..."

#### April 5, 2025

Speaker: Dave Mintz  
"Rejoice Through Physical  
Suffering—Cancer"

#### May 3, 2025

Speaker: Kathleen Fast  
"Women Are Not the Enemy!"

### Save the Date...

Man Camp Men's Retreat  
Trail West Lodge,  
Buena Vista  
April 25-27







## MEN'S LIFE GROUPS

### NEW LIFE GROUP

#### **Dads to Dads**

Taylor Downs

Tuesday, 6:30 AM

ACC, NSC, A3 Cafe



#### **ACC Monday Morning Men**

Steve Thiessen

Monday, 6:30 AM

ACC, NSC, A6



#### **Transforming Men's Study**

Marc Hoffmann

Saturday, 6:30 AM

Panera Bread @  
1845 Briargate Pkwy



#### **Erickson/McKee/Seay**

Dave Erickson, Rick

McKee, and Kevin Seay

Thursday, 6:00 AM

ACC, NSC, A4





## NEED HELP?

For personal assistance in finding a group,  
please contact:

Dave Erickson:  
[dave@academychristian.org](mailto:dave@academychristian.org)

Dawn McClung:  
[dawn@academychristian.org](mailto:dawn@academychristian.org)

Office: 719-599-0476

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[ACADEMYCHRISTIAN.ORG](https://www.academychristian.org)

1635 OLD RANCH ROAD  
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80908