
Academy CHRISTIAN

CONNECT GUIDE

SPIRITUAL FORMATION FOR ADULTS



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.

For more information and registration visit 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

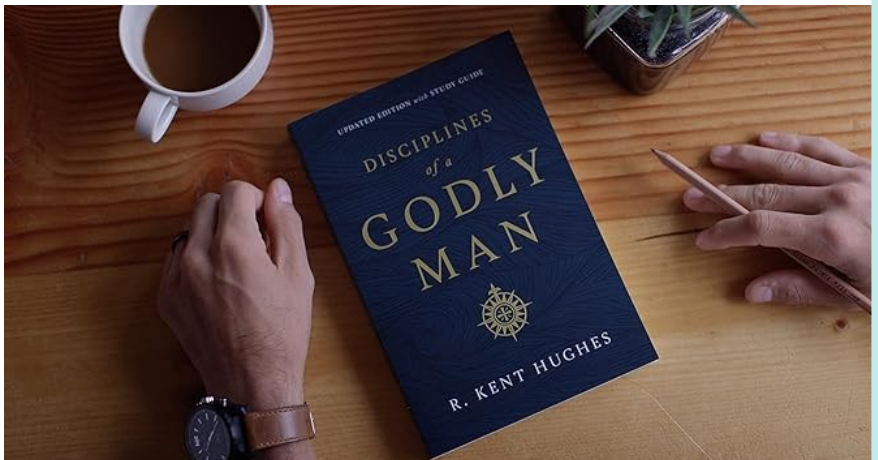
Have you lost someone precious to you? This small group encounter will help lead you through the important and challenging experience of grief, beginning Mon Jan 27 through April 21, at 6:30 PM.

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 & Stephanie Savage/Derrick & Elizabeth Harper

Location: ACC, L6

Makeup: Couples with pre-schoolers

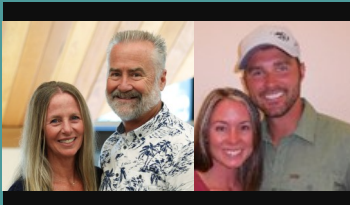


MIDWEEK LIFE GROUPS

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

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

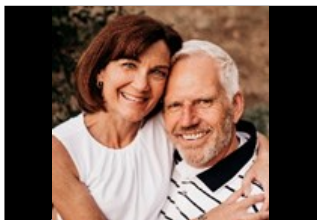
Makeup: Young Couples

Topic: The Gospel in Context

No childcare, but kids welcome

MIDWEEK LIFE GROUPS

TUESDAY LIFE GROUPS



Dodge

Todd & Angela Dodge

80920

Tuesday, 6:30 PM (2nd and 4th)

Makeup: Parents of Adult Children

Topic: TBD



Erickson/Downes

Dave & Paula Erickson

Stan & Donna Downes

80920

Tuesday, 7 PM

Makeup: Open to All Adults

Topic: TBD



Gaby

Bob & Lisa Gaby

80921

Tuesday, 6:30 PM

Makeup: Open to All Adults

Topic: TBD



Hagopian

Emilie Hagopian

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

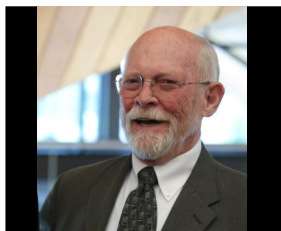


Westlake

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



THURSDAY LIFE GROUPS



Byars

Bill Byars

80132

Thursday, 6 PM

Makeup: Empty Nesters, 50+

Topic: The Great Disappearance



Newkirk

Paul & Donise Newkirk

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

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 discipled 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

Dawn McClung:
dawn@academychristian.org

Office: 719-599-0476

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

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