

Orange Element of Small Groups

Why Orange? Yellow is like the light. The church is called to be a light in the world. Red is like the heart and the warmth of the home – families. Yellow and red make orange. We will be much more successful in raising up the present generation of children if parents and the church combine their efforts. Why are parents so important? Can't the church take care of all the spiritual discipleship of children? The average church can impact a child about 40 hours a year. Parents, however, have about 3,000 hours a year to influence their children. And, these 3,000 hours do not include school time or sleep time! We want to leverage this tremendous amount of time that parents have with their children. We want to equip, empower and release parents to be spiritual leaders of their children. The small groups this fall will help parents to do this. You can make the small group as Orange as you like! Each small group can follow one of the following options:

Option #1

There are no children in the group, and the group is made up of adults with no children or grown children.

No problem! The material you receive for small groups will work great for groups like this. We do encourage you to pass the Orange Resources on to someone who might benefit from them, however.

Option #2

There are children in the group, but your group chooses to provide childcare for them and not include them in the actual small group time.

This might be a good choice if the children are preschoolers, but that's up to you. We are not saying that preschoolers cannot be included. Even if you choose to provide childcare, the Orange Resources for parents will be a great help. The group leader may choose to point out a few resources during the small group time. Our goal is to equip parents to be spiritual leaders of their children.

Option #3

The children are included in your small group time.

We encourage you to try this if possible. Our goal is to make the materials cross generational. This is why we picked the intimacy with God theme – it lends itself to all ages learning together. The great advantage of this approach is that you and your children will have a SHARED EXPERIENCE that can be processed and discussed together. You can even practice some of the techniques listed on the Orange Resource sheet.