



# BRANCHES

## BIG THINGS HAPPEN IN SMALL GROUPS

discussion questions | August 31, 2014

### sermon series

No matter how much we enjoy the weekend worship experience, sooner or later, we stop growing. That's because we need more than great music and an engaging message. We need to connect with other people who are on the same journey as us. Learning we're not alone as we try to follow Jesus changes everything, and that's what **Branches** is all about. In a **Branches** group, you'll find people who've been where you are, who know the joys and pains of building relationships, work and figuring out your calling, raising a family, leaving a lasting legacy. They're people you can join with in figuring out exactly how the new life Jesus offers us changes our whole world. If that sounds too good to be true, it's not. Becoming part of a small group is the single best way to pursue a thriving, life-changing relationship with God. This is Branches. And big things happen in small groups. This Fall, **Branches** Small Groups will replace all Wednesday Adult Education opportunities.

Branches groups will begin the week of September 28 and run through the week of November 16, for a total of 8 weeks. Branches groups meet at various times throughout the week, including on Wednesday evenings, when we have ministries for teens and children from 6:30-8:00 pm.

Signing up for a Branches group is easy. Just go to [bcnaz.com/branches](http://bcnaz.com/branches) and fill out the form. You can even sign up from your smartphone or tablet.

### today

Though we think of Church primarily as a Sunday, large-group worship experience, we find in the Scriptures that we need to engage in small groups of Jesus-followers. Why? Because large group experiences are largely passive. But true spiritual growth happens when we serve those around us. This is why small group experiences foster a deeper, more profound dimension of growth. In the Church, circles are better than rows.

### scripture for further reading

Matthew 18:20; Corinthians 1:4-12; 3:5-11; James 5:13-20

### discussion questions

1. When you think of Church, what comes to your mind first - a large or small group gathering? Why?
2. What are the benefits of a large group gathering? What are the limitations?
3. What are the benefits of a small group gathering? What are the limitations?
4. Have you ever participated in a small group? Share your experience.
5. What are you most looking forward to about Branches? Have you signed up yet?

