

D Groups is short for Discipleship Groups; they are part of the fabric of Middle and High School Youth Groups. D Groups are small intentional communities that meet with regularity that provide consistent care for students. We come together as a Youth Group to eat, play games, have fun and most important of all we go over the Word of God together. After the message we will split into smaller groups known as D Groups. This gives students an opportunity to grow closer with each other and specific leaders. They are organized usually by age and gender in which we go through scriptures (pertaining to the Message of the night) and bible stories, but where the bread gets buttered is when they discuss real life applications on the things that concern students most.

I personally believe the best meetings are the ones that trail off script into the lives of the students, because that's where our leaders really get a chance to shine. Our leaders are empowered to show the students how faith interacts with their everyday lives, even (or especially) when it's challenging. It's extremely valuable for students to have spiritual maturity modeled for them on a weekly basis. This also allows leaders and students to take their discipleship journey to another level by meeting outside of Youth Group. I believe this is one of the most profound investments a congregant can make in the body of the church. This is why it's so important to have more leaders! We need you!

D Groups have been a staple of Madison Youth Group for well over a decade. Some of you reading this now may remember being a part of a D Group. Thank you to everyone who has ever served in this capacity. Special thanks to April Phillippi, Sara Knapp, Mat Ogas, Terah Russell, Zamarya Perkins, Bailie Rouse, Jasmine Brown, Joel Spriegel, Tim Whatley, (super special thanks to my lovely wife) Meghan Jackson, and last but not least my coworker the illustrious Ray Russell Jr. If you see or know any of these 2019 leaders please show them love and appreciation. Maybe send them a text to say thank you. They are truly phenomenal people.

If you would like to get involved or know someone who would, please contact me on email at ljackson@madisonsquarechurch.org or by text/call at 616-821-5055.

-LeMarr Seandre Jackson