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## STORIES OF CHURCH LIFE DONE DIFFERENTLY

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### Redefined small groups

#### Adelaide Road, Dublin

Adelaide Road Presbyterian Church has recognised the importance of discipleship to aid maturity and growth in the Christian lives of members. We found that coming to church weekly does not guarantee spiritual growth and that a more personal interaction was also needed. The congregation has had a system of home groups for many years and we have always tried to keep discipleship at the heart of them.



However, the pandemic forced a re-think when restrictions meant that members were unable to meet in groups of more than three households. So, within the enforced criteria a new arrangement sought to combine, Bible study, prayer, discipleship and encouragement of real conversation about faith. The result was 3D groups meeting virtually, but when circumstances allow, returning to meeting in person.

The three dimensions of the groups were to:-

- Developing prayer-filled relationships
- Digging deeper into God's Word
- Discuss how it impacts the way participants live in real life situations.

Initial feedback has been very encouraging with better development of leadership, more buy in from the participants, an increasing desire to reach out and invite others, and general appreciation of the focused format.