



What is MOMSnext?

MOMSnext is a ministry to mothers of school-age kids. It is a new arm of MOPS International which has been a trusted resource for equipping churches to reach out to families in their communities for more than thirty-five years. A MOMSnext group is an open, accepting place for all mothers of school-age kids to come, just as they are, to experience authentic community, personal growth, practical help and spiritual hope.

What does a MOMSnext group look like?

- MOMSnext groups can vary in size but are often smaller, more intimate groups.
- MOMSnext groups often attract moms who desire to discuss core parenting issues.
- Some moms who join MOMSnext were never part of MOPS.
- MOMSnext groups can meet as often as they like with some meeting twice a month and others meeting only once a month, some meet during the day and others meet at night.
- Some MOMSnext groups partner with existing MOPS groups to alleviate the burden of childcare. Some even share leadership meetings.
- Most MOMSnext groups alternate between hearing a speaker and teaching from a curriculum.

Note: each MOMSnext group may differ in specifics, but every MOMSnext group includes:

- A value on mothering in the school years
- Leadership development
- Relational evangelism
- Connection to a local church
- Service

Why should I join MOMSnext?

- MOMSnext is relationally relevant. Topics meet the specific and demanding needs of the school-age moms in each group.
- MOMSnext may cost less because of limited childcare needs and the potential to partner with a classic MOPS group.
- MOMSnext is focused on outreach and bringing new families to church.
- Your MOMSnext group will be designed around the needs of moms in your community.
- The MOMSnext Forums on MOPS.org and MOPSLeaders.org allow moms and leaders to gain information and ideas from other MOMSnext moms and groups.
- MOMSnext is a next step for many MOPS moms who outgrow preschool topics, but desire to continue being encouraged, equipped and developed.

What topics can MOMSnext cover?

Any topics that address the needs of the moms in your MOMSnext group including:

- Character development
- Homework
- Money management for children
- Work choices
- Balancing family activities
- Manners and how to raise grateful children
- School choices
- Aging
- Navigating the school system
- Sex education and puberty
- Bullying and choosing friends
- Time management
- Raising accountable kids and internet safety
- Multi-intelligences of children (*How am I Smart* by Kathy Koch)
- Family time and dinners

How do I start a MOMSnext group?

- It may help to partner with a current MOPS group that has a lot of graduating moms at the end of the MOPS year to recruit moms and leaders to your group.
- Join with another woman who is passionate about reaching moms of school-age kids to begin forming a leadership team.
- Advertise an informational meet-n-greet or coffee time in your community, and explain the vision and value of MOMSnext.
- Inform local women's ministry leaders and PTAs about your MOMSnext group so they can direct school-age moms to your group.
- Offer a MOMSnext informational flyer for local schools and tutoring centers to distribute to parents.
- Distribute informational flyers or brochures to parents at children's programs.

I'm ready to start – what now?

- Contact MOPS International at 888.910.6677 or charters@MOPS.org
- Visit www.MOPS.org/MOMSnext to read more and download a Charter Agreement
- Visit the MOMSnext forums at www.MOPS.org/bb/viewforum.php?f=38 to talk with other moms of school-age kids.