

# IDENTITY

*THERE ARE NO ORDINARY PEOPLE...*

**SOMSA 2022 Small Group Men's Retreat**  
**13-15 May 2022 (1pm Fri - 1pm Sun) / Fort Worden**



## IDENTITY

Whether we realize it or not, we all, at some level, struggle with identity. We often define ourselves by aligning with particular groups. Our sense of worth is tied, in varying degrees, to our work, successes, or the approval of others.

We feel shame.

We lack deep friendships in which we are known.  
God, at times, seems irrelevant.

As Christians, we look at identity differently than the culture around us...

## INVITATION TO FORM A GROUP

You are invited to form a group of five to six men and join us as we explore biblically-grounded truths about who God created us to be. Our desired outcome for this retreat is for everyone to leave with a biblically-grounded process for dealing with identity issues, whether personal or cultural; an increased sense of wonder regarding the God who created and redeemed us; and an increased sensitivity to the identity-shaping work that God is doing in our lives, and the lives of our brothers in Christ.

## LOGISTICS

Each group will be provided their own lodging on Fort Worden's Officers' Row where they will share meals together and engage in small group discussion. Time will be included in the schedule to hike the trails or beaches of Fort Worden or explore Port Townsend on Saturday afternoon. Group leaders will be trained and content will be provided for groups to meet together three times prior to the retreat.

## COST

\$350 per person; scholarships available.

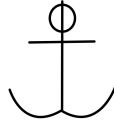
## SIGN-UP

Ideal group size is 5-6 men.

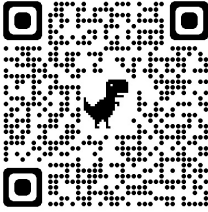
Please register using the QR Code on next page.

Contact Chad Van Someren (Gig Harbor) or Erik Axene (Dallas) with questions;  
or for help putting together a group.

chad.vansomeren@gmail.com  
erikdaxene@gmail.com



## SCHEDULE

FRIDAY 5/13 PSALM 139	SATURDAY 5/14 1 JOHN 3:1-3	SUNDAY 5/15 1 JOHN 3:1-3
<p>1:00-1:45pm Worship and Introduction (Believers Fellowship) <i>Do I Have An Identity Problem?</i></p> <p>2:00-3:30pm Drive to Fort</p> <p>3:45-5:15pm Small Group (Quarters)</p> <p>5:30-6:30pm Small Group Dinner (Quarters or Port Townsend)</p> <p>6:45-7:30pm Worship and Instruction <i>Looking Upward: The Identity of God</i></p> <p>7:45-9:15pm Small Group (Quarters)</p> <p><b>REGISTRATION:</b></p> 	<p>Prayer, walk, run, bike, sleep-in</p> <p>Breakfast in Quarters</p> <p>9:00-9:45am Worship and Instruction <i>Looking Inward: Created and Redeemed for God's Glory</i></p> <p>10:00-11:30am Small Group (Quarters)</p> <p>11:45am-12:45pm Lunch (delivered to Quarters)</p> <p>1:00pm-5:00pm Time for Reflection &amp; Exploration Explore batteries and/or beach, mountain bike, golf...</p> <p>5:30-6:30pm Small Group Dinner (Quarters or Port Townsend)</p> <p>6:45-7:30pm <i>Looking Outward: Identity and Mission</i></p> <p>7:45-9:15pm Small Group (Quarters)</p>	<p>Prayer, walk, run, bike, sleep-in</p> <p>Breakfast in Quarters</p> <p>9:00-10:00am Worship and Wrap-Up <i>Looking Forward: We Shall Be Like Him</i></p> <p>10:00-1:00pm Return to Believers Fellowship Lunch enroute</p> <p><i>"As iron sharpens iron, So One Man Sharpens Another."</i> Proverbs 27:17</p> <p><b>SOMSA MISSION</b></p> <p>Our mission is to promote deep and mutually-sharpening friendship between men before God.</p>

## SOMSA BELIEF STATEMENT

The mutually-sharpening friendship that SOMSA envisions includes accountability and promise-keeping, but goes deeper to include access to each-other's hearts in order to encourage progressive character transformation into the likeness of Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. As sons of God, our aim is to become better men, better husbands, better fathers, better friends, and better workers—all for the glory of God. SOMSA operates from a biblical worldview perspective and is not for people who think that they "have it all together." SOMSA is for those men who recognize their deep and abiding need for Christ and the power of His Spirit. We seek to combat male tendencies toward isolation and self-reliance by promoting true fellowship in the Gospel. SOMSA celebrates the fact that we were designed for relationship—both with God and with others—and humbly relies on the power of the Spirit to produce lasting change through the means of authentic, prayerful, character-sharpening friendship.