



COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE

For the week of September 18, 2022

Getting To Know You

One of the great parts of being in a Community Group is getting to know others better. Take a moment to jot down your answers to the questions below and be ready to share with your group.

Would you rather ...

... live without music or without tv?

... have more time or more money?

...lose internet for a week or be turned into a meme?

How was your summer? What are one or two things you enjoyed this summer?

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

Going Deeper

All over the world, and for decades, people have been embracing their interior lives more and interacting less, and they are doing this by choice. Why do you think this is happening?

(Here is a link to the article for reference: <https://www.livemint.com/industry/media/the-price-we-pay-for-being-less-social-11660485820879.html>)

This weekend's message set up our series for navigating our relationships through a biblical perspective. Which of the following verses challenges you in your relationship with others?

Proverbs 27:17 New International Version (NIV)

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

Psalms 25:15 New Living Translation

The Lord is a friend to those who fear him. He teaches them his covenant.

John 13:35 New International Version (NIV)

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

John 15:14 New International Version (NIV)

You are my friends if you do what I command.

Looking Ahead

The blessing of doing Community Groups is having a front row seat seeing God is at work as you connect, care for one another and encourage each other to follow Him and live out His Word.

What are you looking forward to in your Community Group this quarter?

Thinking back on this weeks sermon, how would you like to see God sustain and/or grow in you this next quarter?

Is there anything specific you need prayer for, or is there any other focus you would like to have in order to grow this next quarter?

COMMUNITY GROUP COVENANT

Leaders _____

Ph.# _____

Hosts _____

Ph.# _____

COMMUNITY GROUPS: THEIR PURPOSE

Community Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful Christian relationships and study of God's Word (Romans 8:29 & Hebrews 10:24, 25). We'll do this by focusing on four primary activities:

SHARE

Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include planned "sharing questions". But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as we feel more comfortable.

STUDY

Each week we'll study a section from God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life.

SUPPORT

Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (John 15:9-13). This care can take many forms such as *prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another, and meeting real needs.*

SERVE

Spiritual Growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to our community (Ephesians 4:11-16). Throughout the quarter, it is our hope that you can find and/or be affirmed in the ways God has designed you to serve, and make a difference in God's Kingdom.

FIVE MARKS OF A HEALTHY GROUP

For our group to be healthy, we need to...

- 1. Make spiritual growth our number one priority (Romans 8:29).**
- 2. Accept one another (Romans 15:7).**
- 3. Take care of one another (John 13:34).**
- 4. Treat each other with respect (Ephesians 4:25-5:2).**
- 5. Keep our commitments to the group (Psalm 15:1-2, 4b).**

GUIDELINES & COMMITMENT

1. **Dates** We'll meet on _____ nights for _____ weeks. Our final meeting of this quarter will be on _____.
2. **Time** We'll arrive between _____ & _____ and begin the meeting at _____. We'll spend approximately _____ minutes in singing (optional), _____ minutes in study/discussion, and _____ minutes in prayer/sharing.
3. **Children** Group members are responsible to arrange child care for their children. Nursing newborns are welcome provided they are not a distraction to the group!
4. **Study** Our studies will focus on the same topic covered in the previous Sunday's sermon or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life.
5. **Prayer** Praying for one another.
6. **Homework & Attendance** Joining a Community Group requires a commitment to *attend each week and do the homework ahead of time*. Obviously, allowances are made for sickness, vacation, work conflicts, and other special events—but not much more!

If we cannot come to a meeting, we will call _____.
7. **Desserts**
8. **Social & Service Project(s)**
9. **Other**