



EST. **NORTHVIEW** 1980
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Community Group Guide – June 1/2, 2024

This guide is designed to help you and your group be **deeply rooted followers of Jesus**.

THIS GUIDE WILL BE DIFFERENT FOR A FEW MORE WEEKS. (“REBUILD” SERIES NOTE)

Following our series in the Gospel of John, we are now shifting into a “topical” weekend sermon series.

Typically, our sermons aim to be more “exegetical” (teaching through a book of the Bible verse by verse), than “topical” (using biblical principles and texts to speak to themes in life and culture). As such, our Group Guides

Typically our Group Guides follow a specific 4 step framework for discussing scripture. But alongside this atypical style of sermons, we’ve adjusted the “Grow” section of the guide to be far less thorough in interacting with one primary passage of verses in the text and more “thematic” in nature (like the sermons themselves).

Don’t feel pressure to cover everything, but prayerfully consider what would work best for your group!

GATHER

Deeply rooted by sharing life seeking the presence of God.

This community based context can to heighten your awareness of God's presence in your time together, and give one another space to talk about what's really going on in life.

- Pray. Thoughtfully acknowledge God's presence in the room. Commit your time together to him.
- What practical needs should everyone know about? What can we do as a group to help?
- What decisions are you facing? Is there any input you'd like from us as a group?
- What are you praying about right now? How can we as a group join you in prayer?
- Does anyone have a story of where you've seen God at work? Is there something we can join you in celebrating?

GROW

Deeply rooted by being formed through the word of God.

This biblically based content overlaps with the current weekend teaching at your Northview campus and positions you, as a group, to shape a biblical view on a specific topic.

- **Pray.** Acknowledge God's presence, and ask for his help to hear what he's saying.
- **Facilitate a guided reflection on the topic and scriptures from the weekend sermon.**

Reflect on the topic.

- Did God highlight something for you in the weekend message you heard at the campus you attended? Is there a next step you feel prompted to do?

Look at Scripture.

- Look up Nehemiah 1:3-10, and Nehemiah 2:2-5.
 - What is the problem that Nehemiah is grieved by?
 - What do you see in Nehemiah's response?
 - Thinking about the time in which we live, what is the "problem" or "need" that you feel God often stirs you to be burdened by and/or engage with?
- Check out Nehemiah 2:6-10 and Nehemiah 4:1-3.
 - Two characters, Sanballat and Tobiah, have a specific reaction to Nehemiah's plans. What do you see in these passages?
 - Now consider the time we live in.
 - What are the common hesitations that reduce your own personal engagement with spiritual work (praying, giving, serving, etc)?
 - What are the common types "opposition" to the work God calls his people to do? Have you experienced opposition in some way?
- Have someone read Nehemiah 2:17-18, all of Nehemiah 3 and Nehemiah 4:6.
 - What stands out to you about the response of the people?
 - What has God used in your life in the past to stir you up to wholehearted engagement with faith?
 - How has God used "serving" to shape your life and build your faith?
 - Is there a particular area *you* have served in a ministry/church that was especially meaningful?
 - Is there a particular time *someone else* served you (or your family) that had a positive impact on your relationship with Jesus?
 - Is there a way you think God is calling you to be more "all in" at our church?

Pray together and/or move to the "GO" section.

- Consider the role that prayer plays in these chapters in Nehemiah as you go to prayer. (You could look up Nehemiah 1:4, 2:4, 4:4, and 4:9, for a reminder.)
 - At this point in our "Rebuild" series, if you were to score your "love for prayer" or "love for the Bible" or your "love for the church" on a scale from 1-5 (1 = low; 5 = high) where would

you score yourself and why? Has your love increased or decreased of late? (Maybe your rating would be different for each category.)

- What has turned that dial down? Is there some way your group could pray for you in this?
- What might turn that dial one degree “higher” in your life? Is there some way your group could pray for you in this?
- Turn to Ephesians 3:14-21. Ask God to give you a sense of wonder and expectation for what he might do in our church, in our personal lives, in our country these days.

GO

Deeply rooted by participating in the mission of God.

These culturally relevant applications are meant, with the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, to prompt actions that bring the life of God’s kingdom into us and out to others.

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- Pray for the “lost” in your sphere of influence. Use the **5x5x5 cards** as a tool.
 - Is there something that seems especially relevant for us to do personally based on our discussion?
 - Is there something we as a group should plan to do together based on our discussion?
 - Is there something we as a group should plan to do to spend time with someone who doesn’t yet follow Jesus? Or to make/strengthen connections with our neighbours?