



EST. **NORTHVIEW** 1980
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Community Group Guide – October 5/6, 2024

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.

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- "Let's start with prayer."
 - What is one thing you're really grateful for right now? Take turns and share one by one.
 - Does anyone have a story of where you've seen God at work? Is there a life situation or answered prayer we can join you in celebrating? (This can be a way to revisit prayers or plans from a previous meeting.)
 - What is one thing you're really burdened with right now? If comfortable, take turns and share one by one.
 - What are you praying about right now? How can we join you thanking God or seeking God?
 - End with prayer, or move to the Grow and/or Go sections in the pages below.

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 be shaped by studying Scripture.

- **Pray.** Acknowledge God's presence + ask for his help to hear what he's saying through the text.
- **Share a takeaway from the Oct 5/6 sermon.** "Is there something the Holy Spirit highlighted for you?"
- **Facilitate a brief study of 1 Corinthians 2:1-5.**

Start the conversation with an "Icebreaker."

In this passage, Paul's words to the Corinthians show what he believes good preaching can be.

Share from your life to get a feel for this dynamic in the text - while also helping others get to know one another - by using this **Icebreaker question: What's the most impactful sermon you've heard? (Why is it memorable? How did God use it in your life?)**

Study Step 1: Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Familiarize yourself with this section of verses.

Study Step 2: Understand Their Story – (With answer key + leaders notes)

Ask *observation questions* to understand what the author is communicating to the original audience.

- **Look at 2:1-5.**
 - 2:1-4 - Paul describes his approach to ministry.
 - What things did *not* describe his preaching?
 - What things *did* describe his preaching?
 - 2:5 - Paul gives his reason for his approach. What is it?
 - *Reflect on these observations: Is Paul advocating for preaching truth in a boring way?*

Study Step 3: Connect To God's Story

Ask questions to understand how this text fits in the larger gospel story.

- The argument Paul is making in Chapters 1-4 of 1 Corinthians is in response to the immaturity and division he sees in the church. They are driven along by the fact that the Corinthians are still being so affected by the cultural norms around them.
 - Read **1 Corinthians 1:11-13**. What was the problem Paul described?
 - Read **1 Corinthians 1:18-25**. What was the experience of preaching the gospel in the Corinthian context?
- The New Testament demonstrates that God uses the preaching of his word as a method for transforming people's lives. Look up **Acts 2:36-41** for another example of gospel preaching.
 - What is the content of Peter's message?
 - What is the result of Peter's preaching?
- Paul also encouraged a younger leader, Timothy, in his ministry. Look up 2 Timothy 4:1-5.
 - What are his instructions in 4:2 and 4:5?
 - Why does he give these instructions?
- *Reflect on these texts. How do you think God evaluates whether a ministry is effective / good?*
- Take these observations and reflections with you to the next step.

Step 4: Apply To Our Story

Ask questions to discern what God is telling us to do with the help of the Holy Spirit.

- Is there something you could do to get more out of a message, regardless of the charisma or communication skills of a preacher?
 - Share what's helped you in the past. (And/or share what you'd like to try next weekend!)
- Paul desired for the Corinthians to have their faith rest in the correct source: the power of God.
 - Discuss "evangelism" strategies you've seen. Do you see an emphasis on human wisdom or on the power of God? How can you tell?
 - What are the pitfalls of our faith resting in human wisdom? Have you seen these dangers cause damage?
- Based on our discussion, is there an encouragement or a challenge you can hold onto this week?

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.

- Pray for those far from God that you personally know, by name.
- 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?

IDEA: Northview Kids is running ["Trunk or Treat"](#) on October 31, and could use some help!

- **Donate Candy! Bring peanut free, individually wrapped candies to Northview Kids on the weekend or to office reception during office hours (M-F | 8:30-4:30)!**
- **Decorate your Car! We are looking for people to sign up to decorate their car and hand out candy as kids go car-to-car trick or treating!**
- **Dress Up! Come in a costume and with a bag to go car-to-car trick or treating!**
- **Invite your Neighbours! This is an opportunity to bring our Northview Kids Families and Communities together to bless our Northview neighbours.**