



EST. **NORTHVIEW** 1980  
**COMMUNITY CHURCH**

**Community Group Guide – Oct 18/19, 2025**

# 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."  
**Thoughtfully acknowledge God's presence in the room. Commit your time to him. Start by calibrating everyone to this reality. Could be one person that opens your time in this way, or several.**
  - 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.)  
**We'd love to share and celebrate stories from our Community Groups to honour God, encourage one another, and contribute to cultivating a culture of prayer across Northview! (With permission, share them with us!)**
  - What is one thing you're really burdened with right now? If comfortable, take turns and share one by one.  
**Idea: be specific. "Is there a practical need or decision you're facing that you'd like the group's help with?"**
  - What are you praying about right now? How can we join you thanking God or seeking God?  
**Idea: get one person to share, and then get one person to volunteer to pray for them. Repeat this process until everyone is covered.**
  - 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.

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- **Pray.** Acknowledge God's presence + ask for his help to hear what he's saying through the text.
- **Share a takeaway from the October 18/19 sermon.** "Is there something the Holy Spirit highlighted for you?"
- **Facilitate a brief study of 1 Cor 14:13-25**

## Start the conversation with an "Icebreaker."

After speaking of the necessity and nature of love in chapter 13, and returning to spiritual gifts in chapter 14,, Paul now goes further into speaking about the gift of "tongues."

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: **How many languages does your group speak fluently? If you had to learn another one, which one and why?**

## Study Step 1: Read 1 Corinthians 14:13-25

Familiarize yourself with this section of verses. (Note characters, commands, key/repeated words!)

## Study Step 2: Understand Their Story

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

- **Take a look at 14:13-19**
  - How many times do you see Paul use the phrase "my mind" in this section? What is he using that phrase to refer to?
  - 14:13 and 14:17 highlight problems Paul wants the Corinthians to avoid. What are they?
- **Take a look at 14:20-25**
  - Paul gives 3 commands to the Corinthians in 14:20. What are they?
  - What is the difference between tongues and prophecy according to 14:22?
  - What does Paul believe happens when unbelievers experience tongues?
  - What does Paul believe happens when unbelievers experience prophecy?

- *Reflection question: Have you seen or experienced what Paul describes in 14:24 in regards to tongues? Have you seen or experienced what Paul describes in 14:25 in regards to prophecy? Share.*
- Take these observations into the next step below.

### Study Step 3: Connect To God's Story

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

**We've selected a few connections that are here to a) expand on the content of the passage and/or b) clarify the content of the passage.**

- Let's unpack Paul's concerns and guidance about tongues further and elaborate on the concept of them being a "sign" for unbelievers.
  - In 1 Corinthians 14:21, there is a reference to **Isaiah 28:11**. Read 28:1-13.
    - What is the context to Isaiah 28?
    - How do the people respond to God's actions according to 28:12-13?
  - Now look up **Acts 2:1-21**.
    - How did the disciples speak in tongues? (2:4)
    - What response do the crowds from a variety of nations have?
    - Consider Peter's quote from Joel 2:28-32 in Acts 2:17-21. What did the presence of tongues indicate about what God was up to?
  - Taken together, what type of function does tongues play towards unbelievers?
- Spiritual gifts are ways in which the Holy Spirit shows himself. Look up **John 16:7-11**.
  - What does Jesus indicate about the presence of the Spirit in 16:7?
  - What does Jesus say the Spirit will do?
- *Reflection: How does Jesus' descriptions of the Spirit overlap with the experience of the Spirit through prophecy in 1 Corinthians 14:24-25? You could also reflect on what church ministry would be like if we neglect the power and presence of the Spirit!*

### Step 4: Apply To Our Story

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

- Reflect on "be infants in evil, but in your thinking be mature" (14:20).
  - What would this look like? How do you know if you're an "infant in evil?" How can we avoid maturity in the wrong thing?
  - Who do you have in your life that could help you assess this honestly?
- The fruitful building up of believers has been in view in this section on spiritual gifts for the past few weeks.
  - What is helping build you up right now?
  - Where do you feel you could be built up further?
  - Take time to thank God for how he uses our church in your life.

- “Unbelievers” are in view in this text, too. Take time to pray for people you know who are far from God, by name.
  - Use 14:24-25 as a guide:
    - “Father, I pray you would convict \_\_\_\_ and see you rightly.”
    - “Holy Spirit, I want \_\_\_\_ to worship you. Help them to see the truth.”

## 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 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?