



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

**Community Group Leaders' Guide – Oct 11/12 2025**

This guide is designed to help you and your group be **deeply rooted followers of Jesus**.<sup>1</sup>

**You can take different approaches week to week - plan for your next meeting in advance.**

**IDEA #1 - BALANCE GATHER + GROW + GO.**

The healthiest groups will give attention to all 3 discipleship categories: *Gather*, *Grow*, and *Go*.

You can't cover each of the 3 sections fully in 1 meeting. For balance, select one or two items from the Gather and Go sections in advance, and condense the Grow section (perhaps just do the sermon recap).

You can also choose a different order (e.g., start in "grow", then hit "gather" + "go").

**IDEA #2 - EMPHASIZE BIBLE STUDY.**

Want a deeper "study" feel? Skip the "gather" section, and work through the "grow" section". Then, at minimum, take one thing from the "go" section: *prayer for the lost*.

**IDEA #3 - EMPHASIZE SHARING LIFE.**

Want a higher "relational" feel? Work your way through the "gather" section, and leave the "grow" section for this week. But try, at minimum, to take *prayer for the lost* from the "go" section.

**You don't have to spend hours preparing like a scholar that "teaches".**

**You can spend your week a) walking with God to lead out of the overflow of that relationship, and b) taking 15 minutes familiarizing yourself with this guide to be a well-prepared shepherd that "cares" and "facilitates".**

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<sup>1</sup> If you don't know your group very well, we recommend starting with our "First Four" discussion guide before this one.

# 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.  
**Idea: ask another person to do this. A sample prayer: "Father, thank you for this time we have. We acknowledge that you are here with us and we ask for your help to hear what you're saying through your word by your Spirit. We commit our time to you for your glory and our good. Amen."**
- **Share a takeaway from the October 11/12 sermon.** "Is there something the Holy Spirit highlighted for you?"  
**For each person to share an insight they got or an action step they are taking from the sermon could use up your time. This might be a good use of your time, but if you want to go further into the study of the text below, indicate this upfront.**
- **Facilitate a brief study of 1 Cor 14:1-12**

### Start the conversation with an "Icebreaker."

After speaking of the necessity and nature of love, Paul returns to spiritual gifts, giving further reasons as to why some gifts are more beneficial to the Body without denying the joy and usefulness of private gifts.

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:

**We've been discussing "spiritual gifts" the past few weeks. Share a time in your life where God pointedly used someone else's gift to build you up. Why did you need that building up at that time? In response, reflect on how important it is to use our gifts for the sake of others' good.**

### Study Step 1: Read 1 Corinthians 14:1-12

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

### 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.

- **Take a look at 14:1-5**
  - There are two biblical imperatives (commands) in the transitory statement in 14:1. What 2 things does Paul commend the Corinthians to do?
    - **Pursue love**



- In 1 Corinthians 14:5, there is an echo to Moses' desire in **Numbers 11:29**.
  - Get someone to read Numbers 11:16-30
  - Within the context, in verses 16-17 God commands Moses to collect together 70 elders whom He will give the Spirit to for what purpose?
    - **To share in leadership for the benefit of the entirety of the people of God - 'shall bear the burden of the people with you' (17)**
  - Moses has no desire to keep God, the Spirit, or unique giftings to himself. In light of the 70 who are given the Spirit in a unique way to build up the gathering of God's people, what does Moses desire for **all** of God's people in verse 29?
    - **"that all the LORD's people were prophets, that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!" (29)**
  
- Along with Moses, Paul's thought is informed by Jesus' example. Let us look at how Paul emphasizes the example of Jesus in **Philippians 2:1-11** when giving the Philippians reason for selfless humility.
  - Get someone to read Phil 2:1-11
  - Like 1 Cor 12-14, Paul here mentions unity together, and the motivation of love (verses 1-2). Due to this unity in Christ, how ought this lead the Philippians to treat one another in verse 3-4?
    - **"In humility count others more significant than yourselves" (3)**
    - **"Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others" (4)**
  - Paul equates this selfless love of counting others as more significant than yourselves to the mindset of Christ that they have in Christ (Phil 2:5) before entering into praise about who Jesus is in Phil 2:6-11.
    - Who is Jesus equal to?
      - **God (6)**
    - Despite this, God the Son willingly humbled himself unto what point?
      - **Death, even death on a cross (8)**
  
- In a section about Christian conduct in **1 Thessalonians 5:19-22**, Paul also talks about how to view the Spirit's work. Let us turn there to find further insight into how to deal with tongues and prophesy.
  - Have someone read 1 Thessalonians 5:19-22.
  - What should we *not do* in relation to the Spirit?
    - **Quench Him**
  - Paul notes not to despise prophecies, implying the Spirit gives them, but qualifies prophecies with what principles in v 21?
    - **'Test everything'**
    - **'Hold fast what is good'**
    - **Abstain from every form of evil'**
  
- *Reflect on how Paul's advice in 1 Thess 5 for how to relate to prophecies highlights the concern and usefulness of tongues, along with all spiritual gifts, from 1 Corinthians 14. What are the similarities and differences? (Note: Though you might have more questions about how tongues and prophesy work today, we will be delving into tongues and prophesy more in next week's sermon and Group Guide.)*
  - **In 1 Corinthians 14:5 Paul notes that tongues are not the issue, but their benefit to the entire church (with an interpretation it is implied they can be useful by bringing a revelation, knowledge, prophecy, teaching as Paul's example in verse 6 shows).**

**Leader's Note:**

- You might have, or receive, lots of questions about tongues and prophecies. If the sermon and questions bring you into a deeper discussion, attempt to direct the group to next week's sermon/meeting. Yet, you could also find further understanding in helpful articles, like <https://www.gotquestions.org/prophecy-prophecy.html>.
- *Reflection: As we think of the Author of Life's (Jesus Himself–Acts 3:15) great love and willingness to become a human creature even unto a shameful death, how might this willingness inspire and empower us to serve for the benefit of others over ourselves? Explore ways how we can individually live this way and what a change this would make at Northview, and how this might affect our culture/city/nation.*

## Step 4: Apply To Our Story

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

- In light of seeing the benefit of others as not only a better way of love, what practices or ways of thinking would be helpful in shifting our hearts, minds, and hands towards striving 'to excel in building up the church' (1 Cor 14:12)?
- Since Paul emphasizes speech that is 'intelligible,' so that its 'meaning' is understood to bring 'some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or teaching' for the benefit of others, what is one step you could take to grow in your speech when it comes to edifying the Body? (Examples might include: being generous in our encouragement, challenging one another to avoid sin and error, teaching sound doctrine, etc) Try and get to specifics, and actionable steps.
- Where are some ways you can use your personality and giftings to build up the Church this week, month, year? **Make it actionable** and not just theoretical; name a particular time and place where you can do this (Example. Every morning I can encourage my spouse or children, by reminding them of Jesus' love for them. Example 2: Despite my natural selfishness to enjoy entertainment every evening, I am choosing to give up Tuesday nights to be a youth leader in Middle School, or be willing to help co-lead a community group next semester, etc).

**Leader's Note:** after discussing, you can use these prayer prompts after the "GO" section, below.

- **How should we pray in light of our discussion today?**
  - **Thank God for revealing Himself to you personally in a way you could understand. This comes through an intelligible message given, that included 'revelation or knowledge or prophecy or teaching' (1 Cor 14:6).**
  - **Pray that our thinking, speaking, and acting would not be useless like 'indistinct sound,' but would bring life, benefit to others, especially the Church.**
  - **Ask God to highlight where He would have us refocus our thinking, acting, speaking, so that others would benefit instead of merely ourselves.**

# 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.  
**Leaders note: This is something that we're putting deliberately at the top here. Every time.**  
(“5x5x5 cards” are available at each campus on the weekend, and our “Loving The Lost” group prayer guide is attached to our weekly group leader email.)
- Is there something that seems especially relevant for us to do personally based on our discussion?  
**Leaders note: This is something that may overlap with the “Apply To Our Story” step in the “GROW” section above, but here it is meant to help narrow down a specific thing that people actually plan to commit to doing.**
- Is there something we as a group should plan to do together based on our discussion?  
**Leaders note: Depending on the applications you've discussed in the “GROW” section, there could be opportunities to serve others as a group. Or, perhaps to gather for worship, prayer, and/or equipping together.**
- 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?
- Pray for Northview's “All-In” Building Campaign. See Pastor Darcy's notes:
  - Worship Centre Project Update
    - We are waiting for our full Building Permit which should come by the end of this month.
    - Underground plumbing and footings will start this month.
    - The retention pond in the back of our property is now filled in and an extra 50 spots of parking have been added.
  - Prayer Requests for the Project
    - Pray for safety for all of the people working on site.
    - Pray that things would go smoothly for all the trades (no surprises!).
    - Pray for favor with the various suppliers and trades so that we would get a fair price on all that is required.
    - Pray that God would already be working in the hearts of people who will fill the seats of our new worship centre.
    - Pray for your 5x5x5 people!