



EST. **NORTHVIEW** 1980
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Community Group Leaders' Guide – Oct 18/19, 2025

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

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".

¹ 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.

- "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.

- **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 18/19 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 14:13-25**

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 – (With answer key + leaders notes)

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?
 - 14:4 and 14:15 - in reference to prayer
 - 14:15 - in reference to singing praise
 - 14:19 - in reference to speaking in tongues

- 14:13 and 14:17 highlight problems Paul wants the Corinthians to avoid. What are they?
 - **14:13 - being unfruitful**
 - **14:17 - not building up others**
- **Take a look at 14:20-25**
 - Paul gives 3 commands to the Corinthians in 14:20. What are they?
 - **Do not be children in your thinking.**
 - **Be infants in evil.**
 - **Be adults in your thinking.**
 - What is the difference between tongues and prophecy according to 14:22?
 - **Tongues - a sign for unbelievers**
 - **Prophecy - a sign for believers**
 - **Leaders note: we'll unpack what type of "sign" these things are as the study develops below.**
 - What does Paul believe happens when unbelievers experience tongues?
 - **They'll think the church is out of its mind!**
 - What does Paul believe happens when unbelievers experience prophecy?
 - **They'll be convicted and worship God!**
- *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 – (With answer key + leaders notes)

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?
 - **This is a judgment text. God is pronouncing "woes" towards the rebellious**
 - How do the people respond to God's actions according to 28:12-13?
 - **They would not hear.**
 - **They end up injured/broken, snared, and captured/taken.**
 - Now look up **Acts 2:1-21**.
 - How did the disciples speak in tongues? (2:4)
 - **They were filled with the Holy Spirit.**
 - What response do the crowds from a variety of nations have?

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.

- 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!