



EST. **NORTHVIEW** 1980
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Community Group Participant Guide – Jan 17/18 2026

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 Jan 17/18 sermon.** "Is there something the Holy Spirit highlighted for you?"
- **Facilitate a brief study of 1 Cor 15:1-11**

Study Step 1: Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

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 1 Cor 15:1-2.**
 - What is Paul reminding them of in this section?
 - What is the Corinthians initial relationship to the gospel Paul preached, they...
 - In verse 2, what do the Corinthians have to continue to do in order for the gospel to do the ongoing work of saving (what is often called 'sanctification')
- **Take a look at 1 Corinthians 15:3-11.**
 - Verse 3-4 gives a description of the Gospel that Paul preached, they received, and ought to practice and persevere in. What aspects does He include and what are they in accordance with?
 - From verses 5-8 Paul gives a list of the accounts of appearances. List them.
 - Before Paul bookends the discussion on the message preached to them (v11), Paul cannot help but reflect on the grace given to him; the same grace received in the Gospel the Corinthians believed! In verses 9-10 how is the Gospel seen in Paul's life?

- *Reflection question:*
Like Paul, and the Corinthians, how has the Gospel story affected your life: identity from sinner to saved by Christ? That is, reflect on your personal salvation. Example: Share testimonies tonight or another time at your group.
- 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.

- **1 Cor 15:1-2 gives us framework for the life of a disciple here: *believe, receive, practice, persevere*. 1 Thess 2:13-15, highlights the same four:**
 - The Thessalonians heard and *received* the Gospel and its teachings(13), *believing* the Gospel was from God and not a message of man. It produced the *practice* of good works in them (13b), and they were to *persevere*, imitating the churches of Jesus (14) by suffering the same persecution for their faith (14b-15).
 - **Read 1 Thess 2:8-12.** Note the actions of Paul and his fellow leaders. What do they do?
- After seeing this pattern in 1 Thess 2–Paul's description of the process of being a disciple of Christ–look to Appendix 1 and 2, where we have a discipleship framework you might find helpful. Though God does the work, by grace (1 Cor 15:10), this framework can help us see our part to play individually (GROW) and our work towards the Church and outside the Church (GO) in the work of discipleship.
 - Discuss in your group what you find helpful or unhelpful with framing discipleship this way.
- Paul's salvation and his mission as an Apostle are evidence of God's grace (1 Cor 15:11). What else does God's grace enable us to do?
 - **Read Titus 2:11-14** What else does God's grace enable us to do?
 - **Read 2 Cor 9:8** How is God's grace evidenced in our financial needs and unto what end?
- *Reflection: When we participate in discipling others (children, friends, co-workers) we will preach, teach, model, and exhort. Where do you currently preach, teach, model, exhort others to be faithful disciples? Where could you?*

Step 4: Apply To Our Story

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

- Where are you currently living out the Gospel identity you have received, 'by which you are being saved'? Examples may include mindsets and behaviors.

- Like Paul, where have you seen the grace of God in your conversion story? What about your ongoing salvation? That is, what is the evidence of God's grace in your life that stands out to you over the years?
- All of us came to believe the Good News at some time. How did you come to first believe? As you move into prayer, take some time to thank God for your personal salvation. Pray for those who are far from God currently.

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?

Appendix 1: Interlinking avenues of discipleship

Leader's Note: Use if helpful for further discussion.

1 Cor 15:1-2 is one place, though you can see parts of this pattern of discipleship in other places like Phil 1:3-11, Matthew 28:18-20, and 1 Thessalonians 2:13-15 (where I originally pulled this framework from).¹

Note the interaction: how God works in/through individuals and the corporate Body, Believers respond to God and participate in the Body's work, and the Body receives from God and gives to believers.

God	Calls	Unites in Christ	Sanctifies	Preserves
Disciples	Receive	Believe	Practice	Persevere
We/The Body	Preach	Teach	Model	Exhort
God	Calls	Unites in Christ	Sanctifies	Preserves

2



¹ In 1 Thess 2:13-15, the Thessalonians heard and *received* the Gospel and its teachings(13), *believing* the Gospel was from God and not a message of man. It produced the *practice* of good works in them (13b), and they were to *persevere*, imitating the churches of Jesus (14) by suffering the same persecution for their faith (14b-15). This is where I initially got my four aspects of personal discipleship: *believe*, *receive*, *practice*, and *persevere*.

² This is an Ai created image from NotebookLM using Joshua R. 's template. Parti

Appendix 2: Participation in the work of the Church

Preach. Those God Calls, believe.

The Gospel is proclaimed through preaching, teaching, and the ordinances: baptism symbols and testimonies given present the Gospel to others.

In these, God's call is given, and disciples believe.

Teach. Those God Unites in Christ, receive.

The doctrines of the faith are taught through teaching, preaching, and practicing the ordinances. Though others might be taught, those God unites in Christ, receive.

Model. Those God Sanctifies, practice.

Through modelling, the ways of Christ are seen and heard, taught, received, and then practiced. Through practicing, disciples are sanctified by God.

Exhort. Those God Preserves, persevere.

Exhortation is given through edifying, correcting, teaching, preaching, and practicing the ordinances. Disciples persevere till the end by God's preserving power and purposes.

Note:

The language on this page is more formal/corporate to distinguish it from the framework's individual work in discipleship. Do not let this lead you to believe that you do not preach, teach, model, and exhort in various ways as you live out your life as a disciple.