



Community Group Leaders' Guide – Jan 31/Feb 1 2026

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 Jan 31/Feb 1 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 15:35-49**

Start the conversation with an 'Icebreaker.'

What would be the most exciting part about receiving a resurrected body like Jesus'?

Study Step 1: Read 1 Corinthians 15:35-49

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 15:35-41**
 - What metaphor does Paul use to describe the reality of the resurrection bodies?
 - **Farming: 'kernel' (37), 'each kind of seed its own body' (38)**
 - To what degree do the heavenly bodies differ from one another in 40-41?
 - **'For star differs from star in glory'**
- **Take a look at 1 Cor 15:42-44**
 - Emphasizing the difference in glory from the current body to the resurrected body, list the amazing distinctions Paul gives in 15:42-44 *'what is sown' vs 'what is raised.'*
 - **'Sown is perishable...raised is imperishable' (42)**
 - **Sown in dishonor; raised in glory (43a)**
 - **Sown in weakness; raised in power (43b)**
 - **Sown natural, raised a spiritual body (44)**

- In 44b, what is Paul's concluding statement from his sowing metaphor?
 - **"If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body"**
- **Take a look at 1 Cor 15:45-49.** Paul's leading metaphors bring him to his theological point about the radical nature of Jesus' resurrection for all believers.
 - List the contrasts you find between the first and second Adam (e.g. which one is sown and perishable, which one is raised and imperishable?)
 - **First Adam (dead, natural)**
 - **Second Adam/Jesus: 'became a life-giving spirit'**
 - **First man (Adam literally means man/human): 'from the earth, a man of dust'**
 - **Second human 'is from heaven'**
 - **First Adam is like a kernel or dead seed sown**
 - **Second Adam/ Jesus is the new life that's raised.**
 - Paul's metaphor is used to express a sobering reality to his readers. If one is from the man of dust, what outcome is there for you? If one is of the man of heaven, what outcome is there for you?
 - **Dust, which is dead, is for 'those who are of the dust'**
 - **Those of Jesus, new humanity, are also 'of heaven'**
- *Reflection question: The great hope for those who have borne the sinful image of Adam, is that 'we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven' if we believe upon His resurrection and its implication (last week). Take time reflecting on God's grace towards us who were born of dust in Adam.*
- 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 15:45-49 notes we have all been born from Adam, yet, we don't have to stay this way. **Read Gen 3:19b, 22-24** and **Rom 6:23** What is the ultimate curse of being borne in Adam's sinful nature (Gen 3:19)? What is there to gain for those who repent and believe in Christ based on Rom 6:23?
 - **Humanity, in their current state away from God, shall 'return to the ground' -death.**
 - **Death is the wages of our sin (Rom 6:23a)**
 - **'In Christ' there is the free gift of eternal life from God**
- Resurrection bodies are a part of the resurrection life. Take some time reading a few of the verses below, highlighting what we gain in Christ by faith. Share what most edified you.
 - 1 John 5:11-13
 - Romans 6:23
 - Titus 3:4-7
 - 1 Peter 2:24
 - Rom 5:8-9
 - John 3:16-18
- 1 Cor 15:35-44 speaks about the resurrected bodies God gives to believers. Last week we noted from Daniel 12 and John 5 that some are resurrected to everlasting death, and others everlasting life. **Read Luke 24:28-43 (cf John 20:19-29)** and **Phil 3:17-21** to explore how the resurrection body looks.
 - Describe the type of body Jesus has post-resurrection in Luke 24:28-43.

- **Does what a body does: walks (24:28), talks, eats fish (24:43), bears the same marks he had prior—was really His body in some sense (24:40)**
 - **Disappears (24:31) and appears (walks through walls?) (24:36-37)**
- In Phil 3:17-21 Paul encourages us that our heavenly bodies will be like Christ's. Like the dust from which they came, they are set on earthly things. Describe the desires and end of setting oneself on earthly things?
 - **Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things.**
- *Reflection: With the reality of the resurrection bodies in mind, we don't have to live for this life, since we (in Christ) will have even more opportunities to enjoy the physical world in the next. Where might this reality affect what you live for now? (An example might be shifting our mindset on 'having' to attend every sports game, 'having' to collect all the toys we want, or travel as often. Instead, we can set our eyes, time, and resources, on the Kingdom of God here and now so that others may join us in the renewed Earth afterwards.)*

Step 4: Apply To Our Story

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

- The resurrection bodies will come, yet the resurrection life—eternal life in Christ—starts now. How can we care for our bodies now, in accordance with resurrection life values?
- Put another way, where do you tend to overindulge in things of this world instead of living out the resurrection life? (Examples often include spending too much money and time on ourselves: consuming too much entertainment, living out retirement years for our pleasure instead of for the Lord and serving others.) Where could you implement change this month (start small)?
- After reading the verses listed in Step 3 about all that we gain in Christ, spend time going around the circle giving thanks to God. How might these truths affect how you live differently today?
- In the GO section below, take time to pray for those who are dead dust in Adam. There is no hope for them outside of being made new in Christ. Make a plan to keep one another accountable to pray for the lost before you leave tonight.

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?