



EST. **NORTHVIEW** 1980
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Community Group Leader's Guide – May 16/17 2026

GATHER + 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 May 16/17 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 2 Cor 6:1-13**
Start the conversation with an 'Icebreaker.'
Share one of the hardest things you've ever endured that you would be willing to endure again.

Study Step 1: Read 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

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 2 Cor 6:1-10**
 - After describing what God has done in Christ (review 5:), Paul appeals for the Corinthians to not do what?
 - **'Receive the grace of God in vain' (6:1)**
 - In verse 2 Paul quotes Isaiah 49:8 to express what about the Gospel message?
 - **The Gospel message that Paul proclaims is the 'The' present time of salvation. It implies there is no future time/message you would need to wait for.**
 - Along with the clear declaration of the Gospel message, what does Paul emphasize about the way he lived among them?
 - **In no way that would hinder their acceptance of the Gospel message (3)**
 - In verse 4-8 what does Paul emphasize to describe his commendable living? What does he start his list off with (not something I would start off with)?
 - **By great Endurance in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger**
 - **By purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love**
 - **By truthful speech, and the power of God**
 - **With the weapons of righteousness in the right hand and the left**
 - In verses 8-10, list the contrasts of how the world sees and treats Paul, and yet what his identity in Christ (5:17) gives him, or empowers him to be, despite this treatment.
 - **Treated as imposters, yet true**
 - **As unknown, yet known**
 - **As dying, yet we live**
 - **As punished, and yet not killed**
 - **As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing**
 - **As poor, yet making many rich**
 - **As having nothing, yet possessing everything**
- **Take a look at 2 Cor 6:11-13**
 - After expressing the ministry of integrity and consistency Paul has lived (3-10), he reminds the Corinthians of what two overall aspects of his posture towards them?
 - **Spoken freely (the truth is declared clearly)**
 - **Heart is wide open (genuine love/openness)**
 - Who is the restricted one in the relationship between Paul and the Corinthians? What is restricting them?
 - **The Corinthians' own affections**
- *Reflection question: Where are your affections limiting your witness of the Gospel?*
- 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.

- **For further study on your own:**

- **Read 2 Cor 11:23b-31.** What further hardships has Paul endured so that he would be made weak and God seen as strong?
- **Read Ephesians 6:10-20.** Expanding on the weapons of righteousness that Paul wields (2 Cor 6:7b), walk through each aspect in Eph 6 of what we gain in Christ and how it can be used as armour or a weapon.

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 have you received the Gospel in vain—without full acceptance? Repent and ask God to give you new desires.
- Like Paul, where is there a hardship that is weighing you down? Paul shows us a great response. How can the Gospel empower you to endure this specific hardship?
- In Christ, and through great effort, Paul is convinced he lives in an integrous way towards the Corinthians. What part of Paul's list (v 4b-8a) do you need to grow in, and why? What can you do this month to grow in this characteristic?
- Are you willing to endure hardship so that Christ is made much of in your life? Where do you need to be more bold and consistent in your representation of Christ (family life, work, extracurricular activities)?
- Who in your sphere of influence do you need to 'widen your hearts' towards? Pray for a greater affection to serve a fellow sibling in Christ. Make a plan to reach out to that person.

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?