



EST. **NORTHVIEW** 1980
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Community Group Guide – May 23/24 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.
- **Share a takeaway from the May 23/24 sermon.** "Is there something the Holy Spirit highlighted for you?"
- **Facilitate a brief study of 2 Cor 6:14-7:1**

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 6:14-7:1

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

Study Step 2: Understand Their Story

Ask *observation questions* to understand what the author is communicating to the original audience.

- **Take a look at 2 Cor 6:14-16a**
 - Paul switches his argument in order to give the Corinthians a warning. What does he command them to do?

- List all the contrasts Paul mentions in 14b-16?

- What declaration about the Corinthians (and our) identity does Paul make at the end?

- **Take a look at 2 Cor 6:16b-18**
 Paul pearl-strings multiple Old Testament promises together. Let's look at them individually! What does each promise/command communicate?
 - Verse 16b: Lev. 26:12; Jer. 32:38; Ezek. 37:27:

 - Verse 17: Isaiah 52:11; Ezek. 20:34,41:

 - Verse 18: 2 Samuel 7:14; 7:8:

- **Take a look at 2 Cor 7:1**
 Note Paul addresses the Corinthians as friends, and reminds them of their connection towards these promises. What does he tell them? (In other words, to whom do these OT Texts apply?)
 - What is an appropriate response/desire for God's children relating to this truth (7:1)?

 - What is the motivation to do so (7:1b)?

- *Reflection question: What is Paul's tone in this passage? How do you hear him communicate this to the Corinthians?*

- 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 Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. Commentators have different opinions on how to interpret what it means to be yoked together with unbelievers, so we're going to try to come to some conclusions on our own by looking at a variety of scripture passages.
 - Option #1 - Based on Paul's word choice itself. The idea of being "unequally yoked" appears only twice in the Bible. It is used as a verb in 2 Cor 6:14, and as an adverb in Leviticus 19:19. Read Leviticus 19:19. The phrase "unequally yoked" appears in the Hebrew & Greek (original languages) in this verse, but in English it is translated as "mate, breed or crossbreed". With that in mind, what is "unequally yoked" in the first pairing of this verse? Now read Deuteronomy 7:3, Ezra 9:12 and Nehemiah 13:25. The word "unequally yoked" does not come up here, but another issue does. What is it?
 - Some commentators think that Paul could be using the literal language of being unequally yoked in Leviticus 19:19 to refer to ways that people can be metaphorically yoked (in Deut 7:3, Ez 9:12, Neh 13:25), and bringing these ideas into his argument in 2 Corinthians 6:14. If this is the case, what is "Option #1" when it comes to understanding what it means to not be yoked together with unbelievers?
 - Option #2 - Based on the scripture passages Paul draws on as he explains this command. In 6:15-16b Paul asks questions to explain what he means, and then from 6:16c-6:18 he quotes scripture to explain what he means. 2 Corinthians 6:16 quotes Leviticus 26:12, Isaiah 52:11 and Ezekiel 20:34,41. Read Leviticus 26:1-12. What command begins this section of text (26:1)? How does the command in Leviticus 26:1 relate to the verse that Paul quotes (Leviticus 26:12)?
 - 2 Corinthians 6:17 quotes Isaiah 52:11 and Ezekiel 20:34,41. Isaiah 52:1-12 is filled with hope. God promises that His people who have been enslaved will be set free so that "all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of their God" (52:10). As they leave the land that has enslaved them, they are to bring certain things with them. What is the command in Isaiah 52:11? What are the "articles of the LORD's house" (NIV) / "vessels of the Lord" (ESV) used for? Read Ezekiel 20:30-44. What is the issue at stake in this text? Why were the people punished by God? (Ezekiel 20: 30-34) How and why does their situation change? (Ezekiel 20:39-44)

Step 4: Apply To Our Story

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

- Have you ever seen negative consequences, struggles or difficult implications of people tying themselves to unbelievers (through intimate friendship, marriage or work). What are some natural challenges?
- Paul reminds the Corinthians of the promises of God made to them. Spend some time to share specific promises of the OT or NT and
- Where in your life have you felt the temptation to compromise? How has this been resolved?
- Respond to God in prayer, asking the Spirit to help you live out what Paul commands in this text!

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.
 - Is there something that seems especially relevant for us to do personally based on our discussion?
 - Is there something we as a group should plan to do together based on our discussion?
 - 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?