

COMMUNITY GROUPS

What Makes Christianity Compelling?

The Ripple Effect, John 13

January 21, 2024

Community Group Discussion Questions

PLEASE READ BEFORE LEADING DISCUSSION

- Recommended questions are highlighted in bold, but select 5 or 6 questions you think will work best for your group discussion. You likely won't have time to discuss all of the questions so choose which questions you will ask ahead of time and make sure to provide plenty of time to focus on the application questions.
- Feel free to edit or reword questions to best fit your group.
- You may want to print out copies of this document for everyone so they can follow along with the questions as you read them.
- Check out this Facilitation Guide (<http://bit.ly/CGFacilitationGuide>) for tips on leading good discussions.

ICEBREAKER (5-10 Minutes)

1. Who do you know that serves others the most?
2. What is your least favorite chore?

OPENING THE DISCUSSION (5-10 Minutes) – Have someone recap the message in about a minute or two and then ask the following questions:

3. Looking at your sermon notes, what is one thing that stands out to you from Sunday's message?
4. When is it hardest to love each other?

DIGGING DEEPER (10 Minutes) – ask everyone to follow along in their Bible or Bible app. You might consider looking up these passages online and sharing your screen to review them together.

5. Read all of John 13. (Reading a long passage can feel strange or hard if you are not used to it, but scripture was written to be read together as a church community. Take time to read and reflect on the whole chapter together.)
 - What stands out to you from this passage?
 - What questions does this passage raise for you?
 - What can we learn from Jesus' interactions with Peter and Judas?
2. Reread John 13:12-17.
 - How does Jesus flip the script on what it looks like to lead?
 - What are practical ways we can serve in our families, community group, or church?
3. Reread John 13:34-35.
 - What are examples of how we can love each other that will make Christianity compelling?
 - When have you been encouraged by a display of Christian love?

APPLYING IT (10-20 Minutes) –

6. Where are you having a hard time loving other Christians?
7. How will you put Jesus' teaching into practice in at least one relationship this week? (at home, church, school, work, etc.)

GROWTH GOALS: ([Print Growth Goal Forms or share the link online](#)) – this may be great to discuss in prayer time.

8. What is a next step in your faith you want to take this year?

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Community Group Introduction

Week 2 of 2024 Winter Groups Trimester

January 21, 2024

Community Group Discussion Questions

Plan to catch up with your group the first week, enjoy a meal together, take some time to review plans for the Community Group trimester, and review the goals of Community Groups.

POSSIBLE ICEBREAKER

1. **Who do you know that serves others the most?**
2. What is your least favorite chore?

COMMUNITY GROUP OVERVIEW

1. **Review ABC's: Purpose of Community Groups:** Apply the Bible, Build Relationships, Care for Each Other
2. **Review Group Commitments for A Healthy Group:** <http://bit.ly/CGAgreement> (See below). Read and ask if anyone has any questions.
3. **Discuss Volunteer Schedule for snacks, childcare, hosting, and facilitation.** Bring a preassigned volunteer schedule if possible: www.NorthridgeLeaders.com/volunteer-schedule-template
 - o Other potential volunteer roles include: Sending weekly emails, organizing socials or serving projects, tracking prayer requests
4. **Discuss starting and ending time and trimester schedule.**
 - o Group trimester goes from January 14 – March 30 (11 Weeks)
 - o Let's honor each other by starting on time and agreeing about how to handle the ending time. Generally it is best to have a hard ending but let people know they can stay to hang out afterwards.
5. **Explain how a normal Community Group night will look for those who are new to groups.**
 - o Social time (10-20 minutes)
 - o Ice Breaker (10 minutes)
 - o Sermon Discussion (30-40 minutes)
 - o Group Prayer Time, Usually in gendered groups (30-45 minutes)
 - o Hangout/Head home
6. **Plan to collect and share contact information for group members**

DISCUSS COMMITMENTS FOR A HEALTHY GROUP

1. **I will make this 11-week group trimester a priority by attending weekly and participating openly in group discussion. I will call ahead if I am going to be absent or late.**
2. **I will strive to build authentic relationships with those in this group by showing care, providing encouragement and praying for their needs. I will keep anything that is shared strictly confidential and within the group.**
3. **I will regularly attend services at Northridge and contribute to the ministry of the church through my attendance and inviting of others with a desire to see this group multiply down the road.**
4. **I will explore honestly my next steps for spiritual growth.**