

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. **Share your name and answer one of the following questions:**
 - **Tell us about a time you lost something. What did you lose and did you find it?**
 - When was a time you got lost? What happened?

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

2. **What scripture, illustrations, or ideas stood out to you from Sunday's message?**
3. What questions did this sermon raise for you?

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.*

4. **Read Luke 15:1-10.**
 - **As you listen to these verses, what stands out to you from this passage?**
 - **How should Jesus's words or stories challenge the way we view people?**
 - What tensions or questions do you wrestle with from Jesus' teaching in this passage?
5. Read Romans 9:1-3.
 - What can we learn from Paul's example?
 - How can we move our heart from indifference to brokenness for people who don't know Jesus?
6. Read 1 Corinthians 9:19-23.
 - According to Paul in this passage, we should do anything possible to help people follow Jesus, including becoming like them.
 - What are ways we can become like people to share Jesus with them?
 - What measures, even extreme ones, might we take to share Jesus with others?

APPLYING IT (10-20 Minutes)

7. **Who is someone you would like to see come to know Jesus?**
8. **What step can you take this week to share your faith with them?**

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

9. **What is a next step in your faith you want to take this year? Where do you need to change or grow?**

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. **What is something you are looking forward to this fall?**
2. What was your top highlight of the summer?

COMMUNITY GROUP OVERVIEW

3. **Review ABC's: Purpose of Community Groups:** Apply the Bible, Build Relationships, Care for Each Other
4. **Review Group Commitments for A Healthy Group:** <http://bit.ly/CGAgreement> (See below). Read and ask if anyone has any questions.
5. **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
6. **Discuss starting and ending time and trimester schedule.**
 - o Group trimester goes from September 18 – November 19 (9 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.
7. **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
8. **Plan to collect and share contact information for group members.**

DISCUSS COMMITMENTS FOR A HEALTHY GROUP

1. **I will make this 9-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.**