

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 as we begin a new year?**

COMMUNITY GROUP OVERVIEW

- 2. Review ABC's: Purpose of Community Groups:** Apply the Bible, Build Relationships, Care for Each Other
- 3. Review Group Agreement:** <http://bit.ly/CGAgreement> (See below). Read and ask if anyone has any questions.
- 4. Discuss Volunteer Schedule for snacks, childcare, hosting, and facilitation.** Bring a preassigned volunteer schedule if possible: www.NorthridgeLeaders.com/volunteer-schedule-template
 - Other potential volunteer roles include: Sending weekly emails, Organizing socials or serving projects, tracking prayer requests
- 5. Discuss starting and ending time and trimester schedule.**
 - Group trimester goes from January 16 – March 19 (9 Weeks)
 - 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.
- 6. Explain how a normal Community Group night will look for those who are new to groups.**
 - Social time (10-20 minutes)
 - Ice Breaker (10 minutes)
 - Sermon Discussion (30-40 minutes)
 - Group Prayer Time, Usually in gendered groups (30-45 minutes)
 - Hangout/Head home
- 7. Plan to collect and share contact information for group members**

GROUP AGREEMENT

- 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.**

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 the following question:**
 - **What is something you are looking forward to this year?**

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, stories, or ideas stood out to you from Sunday's message?
3. Drew mentioned that over the past 2 years people have traded 300 relational hours for 300 digital hours each year.
 - How have your relationships been impacted over the past 2 years?
4. **Drew shared that there are 2 aspects to experiencing Community in a group: 1. Getting Community, 2. Giving Community.**
 - **How might only focusing on one aspect impact our experience?**
 - **What are some practical ways we can help provide community for each other in this group?**

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 Ecclesiastes 4:7-12.**
 - **What stands out to you from this passage about the importance of relationships?**
6. **Reread Ecclesiastes 4:9-12.**
 - **Solomon shares a couple examples of why we are better together than alone. What else would you add to the list?**

APPLYING IT (10-20 Minutes)

7. **What things keep you from experiencing Biblical community and what can you do get past those?**

GROWTH GOALS: ([Print Growth Goal Forms or share the link online](#))

- **What is a next step in your faith you want to take this year?**