

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. **Share your name and a high and low from the summer.**

COMMUNITY GROUP OVERVIEW

2. **Review ABC's: Purpose of Community Groups:** Apply the Bible, Build Relationships, Care for Each Other
3. **Review Group Commitments for A Healthy Group:** <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
 - o 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.**
 - o Group trimester goes from September 17 – November 18 (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.
6. **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
7. **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.**

Rethinking Your Reactions

My Relationships Are Falling Apart, James 4:1-6

September 17, 2023

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. Share your name and a high and low from this summer.

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

2. **Looking at your sermon notes, what were you most challenged or encouraged by from Sunday's message?**
3. What questions did this sermon raise for you?
4. What expectations do we bring to our relationships that hurt our relationships?

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 James 4:1-6.**
 - If you could summarize James's words in this passage to one main point, what would you say?
 - **How do these verses challenge us to rethink our reactions to conflict?**
 - **Drew shared 6 unmet desires that may lead to conflict: 1. Comfort, 2. Pleasure, 3. Recognition, 4. Power, 5. Control, 6. Acceptance.**
 - **Where have you seen those unmet desires lead to conflict in your own relationships?**

APPLYING IT (10-20 Minutes) –

6. **What was your biggest personal takeaway from Sunday's message? How do you want to live or think differently in light of this discussion?**

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

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