

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

POSSIBLE ICEBREAKER (good to discuss over dinner)

1. What was your favorite part of the holidays?

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
 - 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 January 13th – March 9th
 - 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**

GROUP AGREEMENT

1. I will make this 8-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.

Trust The Process

The Skeptics Guide To Church

January 13, 2019

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 answer the following question:
 - What was your favorite part of the holidays?

OPENING THE DISCUSSION (5-10 Minutes)

2. Which question or part of the process that Drew addressed Sunday did you find most helpful or clarifying?
3. In what ways is Northridge different or similar to your church or religious background?

DIGGING DEEPER (10 Minutes)

4. Read James 1:22-25.
 - What statement or idea stands out to you most from these verses?
 - Where do you struggle most to obey what you know is right?

APPLYING IT (10-20 Minutes)

5. Which of the 5 parts of our discipleship process at Northridge do you need to grow in?
 1. Worship – Attending on Sundays regularly and engaging with God.
 2. Community – Attending group and investing in relationships regularly.
 3. Grow – Pursuing knowledge and obedience in your faith.
 4. Serve – Finding a place to serve in the church or community.
 5. Invite – Praying, investing in, and inviting people to follow Jesus.

GROWTH GOALS:

- What is a next step in your faith you want to take this year? Here are some ideas:
 - Read a chapter of the Bible every day.
 - Commit to attend Community Group every week.
 - Begin a volunteer role at Northridge.
 - Increase my volunteer level at Northridge.
 - Memorize (___number of) verses from the Bible.
 - Attend the Starting Point group on Sunday's at Northridge.
 - Get baptized.
 - Become a Northridge Church member.
 - Invite "insert name" to church.
 - Increase the percentage of my income I give to church.
 - Read a good Christian book.
 - Connect with a friend weekly/daily to keep you accountable with good/bad habits.