

# Community Group Celebration Week

**“I WILL EXTOL THE LORD AT ALL TIMES; HIS PRAISE WILL ALWAYS BE ON MY LIPS. I WILL GLORY IN THE LORD; LET THE AFFLICTED HEAR AND REJOICE. GLORIFY THE LORD WITH ME; LET US EXALT HIS NAME TOGETHER.” PSALM 34:1-3**

God has done such great things through Community Groups this year. This week is your chance to praise God for all that he has done.

- What is something that you have noticed God doing in you since you joined this Community Group?
- How have others in this group most impacted your life over the last 9 months?
- As a group focus on one person at a time and share positive affirmations about each person.

Before you leave take time to pray together and thank God for all that he has done. Also, make sure the details are set for the next time you get together. Share with each other who you will invite to the next gathering.



## **COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDELINES**

### **Confidentiality**

Keeping things that are shared in the group confidential builds trust and shows value to the person. Confidentiality can prevent gossip that only values the story; Jesus always valued the person above their story or their sin.

### **Don't Rescue & Don't Fix**

When someone is sharing something deeply personal and/or painful there can be a tendency to try and make them feel better about themselves or the situation. Often this will cause people to stop sharing and results in their not going as deep as they might have gone. Resist the temptation to rescue people. Try to hear what people are sharing without trying to fix them. If they want your advice, they will ask for it. You may want to take time later to ask if you can offer some advice.

### **No Crosstalk**

Be considerate of others as they are sharing. Don't have side conversations. Trust is built in the moments when everyone feels like they are being listened to and heard by the entire group. Treat others in the group as you would want to be treated.

### **Use Humor Responsibly**

Fun is an essential part of Small Groups; however, when meeting in the Biblical Storytelling time keep sarcastic comments, jokes and laughter to a minimum to allow for an atmosphere of authenticity and vulnerability.

### **Give Everyone a Chance to Share**

Be sensitive to the amount of time you share. Encourage everyone to participate in group discussions.

### **Use "I" Statements**

During small group, we want to hear your personal thoughts and perspectives. Using "I" statements to answer discussion questions allows you to speak for yourself rather than generalizing by using terms such as "them", "the church", "us" or "we".

### **Fight for Relationship**

Relationships reaches a whole new level when conflict is resolved in a healthy manner. When conflict or sin issues arise between group members, commit to fight for the relationship and discuss the struggle with the person you are in conflict with or seek wise advice.