

Community Group

Week of September 4

1 Corinthians 9:19-23

Take a few minutes for each person introduce themselves and share what they did over the summer.

Share how you saw God over the summer.

- Community Group Guidelines are how we agree to do group. As a group read through each of the guidelines and talk through any questions.

Bible Study

Pray that God would help you hear and do what he is saying.

Read 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 twice.

- What is the gospel?
- What was Paul's strategy for sharing the gospel with people?
- Why would we want to become all things to all people? Shouldn't we just be ourselves?
- Think about and share an example of what this could look like in your life with your family, friends, neighbors and coworkers.
- How does this conversation make you feel?

As We Go

- How is God challenging you?
- What do you need to do this week to follow through on God's challenge in your life?
- Pray for each other and an opportunity to share with someone else how God is challenging you.



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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.