

Community Group Leaders Guide

Week of January 8

Matthew 19:3-12

Today's big idea: Having healthy relationships means starting or restarting from a spiritually healthy place.

Through this entire study realized that people are going to be in a variety of places relationally—some married, some single, some divorced, and some widowed. Be intentional to value the perspective that each brings to the group.

- What is the best piece of relationship advice you have learned either personally or from others?
- Review the Community Group Guidelines together.

Bible Study

Because this is Jesus teaching it will be a little harder to use Storytelling. Try to give yourself some additional time to prepare or simply read the text multiple times together.

- Someone pray that God would help us hear from him.
 - Use the Bible Storytelling technique to tell the story of Jesus teaching on marriage.
 - Retell the story together as a group.
 - Read the story from Matthew 19:3-12 in the Bible.
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- What was the relational end that the pharisees were concerned about?
 - What reasons did Jesus give for the value of marriage?
 - How optimistic were the disciples about marriage? **Verse 10, it is better not to marry**

Going Deeper

Notice that the first two questions speak to marriage while the third question speaks to singleness. Encourage everyone to participate even if they aren't currently married or single. Married people used to be single and single people have parents. Encourage them to speak from those perspectives.

- Jesus's first basis for marriage was Scripture. What are different ways in which you could ensure that Scripture is at the heart of your marriage?
- Jesus warned against a hardened heart. How can you keep your heart open to the leading of God and how can you influence your spouse in this way too?
- How do these principles apply to being single and dating as well?
- Close your time together by sharing prayer requests and praying for each other.



Community Group Covenants - hfcog.org

Community Group Member Covenant

- I will make attendance a priority in my schedule and involvement a priority in my participation.
- I will build trust by holding in confidence those things shared in the Community Group.
- I will engage with a disciple maker—someone that will help me grow as a disciple of Jesus and teach me how to be a disciple maker as well.

Community Group Apprentice Covenant

- I will pray for the Community Group Members daily.
- I will accept the responsibility to invite and welcome others into the Community Group.
- I will relationally disciple someone in the Community Group beyond group meetings focusing on their personal relationship with Jesus, and others they are discipling.
- I will seek to multiply the Community Group and not just grow the group.
- I will talk with my Community Group Leader each week and meet monthly beyond group meetings.

Community Group Leader Covenant

- I will pray for the Community Group Members daily.
- I will accept the responsibility to invite and welcome others into the Community Group.
- I will relationally disciple someone in or out of the Community Group.
- I will relationally disciple an apprentice focusing on their personal relationship with Jesus, leadership skills they are developing in the group meeting and others they are discipling.
- I will seek to multiply the Community Group and not just grow the group.
- I will talk with my Community Group Coach each week and meet monthly.

Community Group Coach Covenant

- I will pray for my assigned Community Group Leaders daily.
- I will relationally disciple someone.
- I will call my assigned Community Group Leaders each week focusing on their personal relationship with Jesus, process group time and their progress with their apprentice.
- I will meet with my assigned Community Group Leaders each month.
- I will talk with my Community Group Pastor every other week and meet together each month.