

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Fall 2024 - Welcome One Another - "Worship Together"

Monday, Sept. 23 - Sunday, Sept. 29 (Week 3)

EMPHASIS FOR THE MONTH: The month of September is all about building relationships and building trust within your group. You really want to be sure to give some time to just getting to know one another if people don't already know each other or know each other very well.

ICE BREAKER: What is one thing you love about our church community? **(OR)** What is your favorite worship song and why?

CAB ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Calling all Prime Timers! (Ages 50+) Your help is needed in solving a mystery! Come for a "Who Dunit?" Night on Saturday, October 12 at 6 PM at the church. Dinner will be provided, but please sign up in our weekly Monday email to bring either a dessert or beverage. Come for fellowship, fun and a blessing as Pastor McKinney shares with us from God's Word. Any questions? Please contact Kris Rienstra at kgrienstra@gmail.com
2. Please bring a friend and join us this Sunday, Sept. 29 for Baptism Sunday as we celebrate the work God has done and welcome two new children of God into our CAB family!

EXPECTATIONS: If you haven't done so already, take this time to go over your group's expectations:

1. Commitment to Attendance

- Encourage members to prioritize attending meetings regularly.
- Discuss the importance of consistency for building relationships and deepening discipleship.

2. Confidentiality

- Emphasize the need for trust by keeping personal sharing within the group.
- Create a safe environment where people feel comfortable being vulnerable.

3. Respect for Time

- Honor the group's meeting start and end times.
- Encourage everyone to be prompt and mindful of each other's schedules.

4. Participation

- Encourage all members to engage in discussions and prayer times.
- Create space for everyone to share without feeling pressured.

5. Support and Encouragement

- Set the tone of being a group that prays for, encourages, and supports one another.
- Make sure people know they're here to build each other up in Christ.

6. Follow-up and Communication

- Agree on the best ways to stay in touch between meetings (e.g., group texts, emails).
- Make sure group members are comfortable reaching out if they need prayer or support during the week.



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7. Respect for Diversity

- Acknowledge that members may have different perspectives and backgrounds.
- Encourage respectful dialogue and unity in Christ, even when there are differences.

8. Serving One Another

- Discuss ways the group can serve the church and community together.
- Create a culture where members look for opportunities to help each other in practical ways.

IMPORTANT! - **IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST GROUP MEETING:** *As you prepare for your first group meeting this week, I just want to remind you: it's totally okay if you don't get through all (or even get to any) of the questions for this week. In fact, it's really important to spend time getting to know one another during these early meetings. Building relationships and establishing mutual trust is the foundation for what we'll do together as a group in the future. If that means spending the entire meeting sharing stories and learning about each other, that's exactly what needs to happen. Don't feel pressured to rush into the structure—we have plenty of time for that! Right now, it's all about connection. So, enjoy this time, and let God guide your conversations. If you need to just skip the questions and go right into prayer time.*

PRAYER FOR DISCUSSION: Leader or Co-Leader prays for the discussion time. Pray that the The Holy Spirit would assist in the conversing, processing, and listening of the discussion.

SERMON DISCUSSION TIME: Have someone read the passage: Hebrews 10:23-25 and then read this sermon summary to jog everyone's memory:

In this week's sermon from Hebrews 10, Pastor McKinney addresses the importance of being present for the weekly Sunday morning gathering as a church community, emphasizing how a vital part of making church feel like home is achieved through worshiping together. The sermon shares an encouraging email from a congregant who expressed gratitude for the kindness and support they received from fellow church members during a challenging time. This underscores the idea that true ministry is manifested through small acts of love within the church family. Pastor McKinney makes a case for the necessity of physically meeting regularly on Sundays for corporate worship, equating it to the intrinsic nature of teams and families. Using examples, he illustrates that just as teams must physically gather to function, Christians too must come together regularly to worship. He contrasts the Old Testament's corporate worship practices with the New Testament's greater revelation through Jesus Christ, arguing that the salvation we have in Christ is far more worthy of corporate praise. Ultimately, Pastor McKinney highlights that attending church is not merely a command and we shouldn't attend solely because God tells us in His word, but also because it is the heartfelt response to the beautiful reality of Christ's sacrifice and the community cultivated within the church.

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QUESTION #1: How does worshiping together with other believers differ from worshiping alone?

QUESTION #2: Have you ever struggled with the idea of regularly attending church for worship? What were the reasons?

QUESTION #3: How does the knowledge of Christ's sacrifice and resurrection influence your approach to worship?

QUESTION #4: What does it mean to you that corporate worship is a "fitting" response to God's work in our lives?

QUESTION #5: How can you prepare your heart and mind for corporate worship each week?

QUESTION #6: What is one takeaway from this sermon about worshiping together that has been impressed upon your heart and mind?

PRAY TOGETHER: Spend time taking *and recording* prayer requests and then pray together as a group (*I strongly encourage you to send out the prayer requests weekly to your group to keep everyone informed and in the loop on how to pray for one another throughout the week. This also makes it easier to check-in with people who have shared requests to see how the Lord has been working in their lives*).