

## Guide for Growth Group Hosts

### Connect in Community (You Were Made For This)

#### **THINK ABOUT IT**

Based on last week's message, where have you decided to serve? Share it with the group.

#### **MAIN GROWTH GROUP SCRIPTURE**

*The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen. **1 Peter 4:7-11 (NIV)***

#### **DISCOVERY QUESTIONS**

- The Bible clearly shows that we need each other. Why do you think there is such an emphasis on community in the scriptures?
- (Read the Verse Below) Connecting in community helps you to nurture your important relationships. How can you nurture the current relationships in your life?

*...the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow. **Colossians 2:19 (NIV)***

- (Read the Verse Below) It's important to restore the relationships in your life that are broken. Why is it sometimes difficult to restore broken relationships?

*Do not repay anyone evil for evil...If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. **Romans 12:17-18 (NIV)***

- Think about your own relationships (family, neighbors, friends, etc.). Identify one broken relationship that you will begin restoring this week. Discuss this with the group.
- (Read the Verse Below) Connecting in community will help you sever harmful relationships. Why is it sometimes easy to become complacent with unhealthy relationships? What do you think God desires for the relationships in your life?

*He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm. **Proverbs 13:20 (NIV)***

- (Read the Verse Below) The Bible cautions us about being connected to wicked people. What is the danger in being connected with those who are doing wrong?

*Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?*

**2 Corinthians 6:14 (NIV)**

- (Read the Verse Below) God wants to have a relationship with you. What can you do to nurture your relationship with God?

*I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty.”* **2 Corinthians 6:18 (NKJV)**

### **LIFE APPLICATION**

Biblical community means that you are choosing to be in relationship with a church, small group, team, and God. Pick one of these four areas where you do not have a strong relationship. Next, get suggestions from the group on how you can nurture that relationship.

### **DIVE DEEPER**

**Go deeper during the week!**

- A great way to dive deeper and learn more about Jesus is by reading **God’s Word** daily. Commit to reading for at least 5 minutes per day to start. Here is a bible reading guide to help you take your next steps in that area: <https://experienceheritage.org/next-steps/read-the-bible>
- Read the **daily devotionals** each day found at [www.experienceheritage.org/blog](http://www.experienceheritage.org/blog). You can sign up to have them delivered daily to your email inbox by clicking here: <http://experienceheritage.org/Devotionals>.
- During your daily quiet time with God, read this **memory verse** and think about its meaning:

*But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.* **John 1:12 (NLT)**

- **Watch the messages** online at [www.experienceheritage.org/messages](http://www.experienceheritage.org/messages).

### **PRAYER GUIDANCE**

The #1 relationship to nurture is your relationship with Christ. If there is anyone who has not accepted Christ in the group, lead them in this prayer below.

*Jesus, I need you in my life. Forgive me for all of my sins and mess-ups. I'm tired of doing life alone and I need your help. Come into my heart and be Lord over my life. I believe in my heart that you are Lord, that you died for my sins, and that you rose from the dead. Thank you, Lord, for forgiving me and saving me. AMEN*