

# Growth Group Leader Guide

This “growth group leader guide” is meant to be just that, a guide. Please feel free as the leader of your group to add questions or comments as you feel necessary to fit your group’s dynamics.

Also, don’t feel pressured to cover every question.

## **Ephesians** – “The depth of God’s grace lived out in love.”

### **Hebrews 10:19-25**

- What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend’s message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

#### **3 – Points of Sunday’s Sermon**

- **The Good News**
- **The Command in Light of The Good News**
- **The Implication**

#### **Read Hebrews 10:19-25**

##### **I. The Good News**

- How does the Gospel unite us? How is the Gospel the foundation to our unity and fellowship?
  - **Read 1 John 1:1-3** to help answer this question.
- **Read Hebrews 10:19-21**
  - What are some allusions to the temple in verses 19 & 20?
  - How is Jesus our great high priest?
- **Read Colossians 1:3-5.** Why are Faith, Love, and Hope the 3 most important virtues of a Christian?
- **Read 1 Corinthians 13:12-13.** Why is love the greatest of the 3?

- Do you agree with the following statement? “The worship of the local church is the closest experience we have of heaven on earth.” Explain your answer.
- In what ways does the gathered church anticipate heaven? In what ways does it fall short?

## II. The Command in Light of The Good News

- What are the 3 main commands in verses 22-24?
- What are some ways you can “stir up” your brothers and sisters to love and good works? Read the following verses to help answer this question.
  - Ephesians 5:18-19
  - 1 Corinthians 11:23-26
  - Matthew 18:15-20
  - 1 Timothy 4:13
  - 2 Timothy 4:2
  - James 5:16
  - Ephesians 4:29
  - 1 Corinthians 12:7

## III. The Implication

- Out of the 3 virtues (Faith, Hope, & Love), how is love the only virtue that needs others?
- **Read and discuss** the following quote.
  - *The New Testament lends no support to the idea of a lone Christian. Close and regular fellowship with other believers is not just a nice idea, but an absolute necessity for the encouragement of Christian values. – Donald Guthrie*
- **Read Hebrews 3:12-14** and discuss why Christian encouragement is so important.
- How is Christian fellowship a means of grace?
- As a Growth Group, list some ways you can encourage each other throughout the week.
- **Read Hebrews 10:25.** Why do you think the people talked about in this verse fell into the habit of not meeting? **Read Hebrews 10:32-33** to help answer this question.

- **Read Acts 2:41-47** and name 4 or 5 qualities of this early church.
  - What were the priorities of this church according to verse 42?
  - Acts 2:47 says that “the Lord added to their number day by day.” How was their fellowship a witness to the surrounding community?

## **Prayer**

- Spend some time as a group praying for Country Oaks.
- Final prayer by George Matheson (1842-1906) who was a Scottish pastor and hymn writer, blind from youth.
  - *Son of man, give us a common interest in you: it is the only thing that will make us one. Help us through a common love to forget our individual desires. It is my individual desires that make me a dull companion. Often in the social hour I sit silent, not because I am ignorant, but because I am uninterested. Crucify my world, Oh Christ. Crucify my spirit of isolation, my desire to be alone. Give me power to come out from myself into the community of men, into the common love.*