



One of our goals at Gateway is to move people from “**Rows to Circles.**” It can be impossible to truly connect on a Sunday morning in a room full of people. However, we desire all of our people to be connected to **a Group that meets on a regular basis and provides a space for each person to Experience Community. Each Group is committed to Encountering Jesus in the truth of Scripture, Engaging in prayer together, and helping each other to Embrace the Mission that each of us has been called to pursue.**

This **Groups Guide** is for all Groups to utilize even if yours is studying something other than the Sunday Conversation. Additional resources are provided weekly to allow for Groups to connect through **prayer, worship, discipleship, service, and fellowship.** Leaders are encouraged to implement these elements in any order and to feel free to make substitutions or additions.

PRAYER: Continuing the conversation God already started

- Group leader can open in prayer and open for others to pray as well.
- If leading prayer is an area of uncertainty, read a verse/passage (such as Ephesians 4:32) and play some background music for a couple of minutes while praying silently and meditating on the verses read (use an instrumental worship playlist from YouTube or Spotify)

WORSHIP: With all we are and all we've been given

- Offer info on **baptism** (held monthly): <https://gtwy.life/get-baptized>
- Offer info on **Family Dedication**: <https://gtwy.life/family-dedication>
- Online giving: <https://gtwy.life/giving>
- Ask group members, “Where have you seen God working this past week in your life and the lives of others?” Continue this attitude of praise and openness to the transforming power of the Gospel and movement of the Spirit through believers as you sing or meditate on the truth in these songs or in your group’s unique worship time.
- Consider playing a few of these songs from the weekend and sing along, or worship through meditating on the lyrics as you listen:
 - Death Arrested: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uMsMiluCUUI>
 - Great Are You Lord: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vQLMnPYoR9k>
 - Freedom: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NjzcEI9VByk>
 - Your Kindness: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xeZe1NzjNoQ>
 - Be Thou My Vision: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Optm7IF16s>

FELLOWSHIP: Doing life together

- To learn about other ways to connect and other next steps: <https://gtwy.life/connect>
- Anyone have a tangible need the group can help support? Meal Train/Take Them a Meal, childcare swap, home project that needs extra hands/expertise, etc
- Anyone have activities this week where group members can show up to support? i.e. kid activities (sports, music, etc), birthdays, doctor appointments, funerals, etc
- **Interested in Partnership?** Visit here: <https://gtwy.life/partnership>

SERVICE: Individually and as a Group

- Ask “How did you see God show up as you served this past week?” (through your ministry at church and outside of church)

- **GTWY offers 3 weekend experiences (Sundays at 8:30, 10, 11:30)** - There is a need for additional volunteers in all areas - please consider how you can volunteer if you're not already involved in a ministry at GTWY: <https://gtwy.life/get-involved>
- Monthly ask, "Where should we serve next as a Group?"

DISCIPLESHIP: Lives Transformed Daily by the Gospel

- Suggestions for **personal or family study**:
 - **Free** Right Now Media account (Video Bible Study Online Library): <https://gtwy.life/resources>
 - GTWY Messages Archive: <https://gtwy.church/message-archive/>
 - Love Like That (Les Parrott): <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/310016>
 - Love Does (Bob Goff): <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/408498>
 - Talking with your kids about Jesus: <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/493404>
 - What's in the Bible: <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/1>
- **Diving In** to this Week's Conversation: *Ask open-ended questions or phrases that prompt group members to go deeper is encouraged* - "How do you see ___ showing up in your life?" "Tell us more about that." "What does that show us about Jesus?" "What should our response be?" etc.
 - After 2 weekends in the SUMMER LOVE series...what lessons about PATIENCE & KINDNESS have shaken up your world?
 - Google the poem Pastor Jon shared from Walter Childress. Create or modify a few "updated lines" for 2022. Discuss where you see great needs for KINDNESS around you.
 - On the continuum of "drifting between clueless & cruel" rate yourself on your personal awareness of people in need of KINDNESS.
 - Group Facilitator: Select in advance some "highlights" from Exodus 32-34, of the interaction between The LORD and Moses. Discuss with the group how could these encounters change the mind of someone who only believes in an "Angry Old Testament God?"
 - Discuss Michael Card's working definition of HESED [The Loving Kindness of God]. "When the person from whom I have a right to expect nothing gives me everything." How could receiving HESED from God, and offering it to others, revolutionize our relationships?
 - Using the illustration from Jesus in Luke 10 [The Good Samaritan] discuss the Big Idea, and how the 3 action points can be worked out in your day to day life:
 - KINDNESS IS: Thoughtfully CHOOSING To Make Someone's Day BETTER
 - KINDNESS: Requires AWARENESS, Embraces INTENTIONALITY, and Leverages STRENGTH & STABILITY.

To submit a prayer request, connect in additional ways, view upcoming events, access additional discipleship resources and more, visit <https://gtwy.life/>.

