

Leader's Guide

Each community group should be broken up into 3 segments.

Community (20 minutes)

Take the first 20 minutes of your time together to build relationships with those in your group. You can do this however works best to help your group grow together.

One group last year asked two questions during this time. The first question got the room talking through the use of a ridiculous question. An example would be, "If you could be a fork, spoon, or knife which one would you be and why?" The second question was then a more serious question that related to the content for the week.

Take some time when you plan this component of your time together. Try googling "community building activities or questions" if you need help.

Bible Study (30 minutes)

We've taken the Cru.org study of Ephesians and pared down the question load to less than 10.

Here are some thoughts for preparation.

Start by praying then reading the passage of the night. Then, read the "Big Idea?" This helps you know the goal that Paul is driving at in the passage. Next, read "What's the problem?" Here, you can get an idea of where Scripture is exposing our need for Christ. Next, read "What's our response?" Here, you can get an idea of what the implications of the text are for our lives. Reading and knowing these will help you steer your group in the direction Paul wants to take them.

We've also included two pages of commentary to help you get a good understanding of the text. Feel free to explore other commentaries that you enjoy using!

Lastly, prepare the questions. Feel free to rewrite questions to adapt them to your group if you'd like. Also, if you'd like to add some questions of your own, feel free.

Prayer (10 minutes)

Set aside 10 minutes to gather prayer requests from your group and then to pray for those. In addition to praying for peoples' needs, come up with other things for which your group would like to pray. One idea has been to focus in on the "Big Idea," "Problem," and "Response" section of the leader's guide for prayer prompt ideas.

Spend a few minutes planning this time as well so that prayer doesn't just become a quick, awkward way to end your community group. Guide prayer to be a capstone experience your group shares in responding to the Word and what God is doing in your lives and on campus.