

Template for Structuring Your Community Group

As stated in the group covenant, the purpose of our community groups is to **socialize, share, study, support, and serve**. Below is an optional template that covers each of these aspects. You do not have to follow this exactly, but do aim to meet these goals in your group. Every group should plan on meeting no longer than two hours, unless you have something special planned. Honor one another by starting and ending on time.

WEEK 1 OF EACH MONTH | SPIRITUAL DISCUSSION

- Socialize – Start with a snack and 15-20 minutes of informal socializing. You can also plan an ice-breaker question. This is great for warming everyone up for discussion.
- Study and Share – Open with prayer and begin the discussion time (use [discussion guide](#) for creating rich conversions).
- Support – Spend the last 20-30 minutes praying for one another. This can be done as one big group or split with men and women meeting separately. Mix it up from time to time. When you pray, use the [effective prayer guide](#) for a dynamic prayer time together.

WEEK 2 OF EACH MONTH | DINNER

- Socialize – Share a meal together. This can be potluck or take out (with everyone pitching in to pay for it). If the host home isn't conducive for this, pick an alternative home. Building relationships while breaking bread is the goal.
- Share – During your meal, make time for discussion and sharing. An option is to take communion with one another.

WEEK 3 OF EACH MONTH | SPIRITUAL DISCUSSION (Same as Week 1)

WEEK 4 OF EACH MONTH | NIGHT OUT / SERVICE PROJECT

- Socialize – Have men go out and women stay at the host home. Switch for the next month.
 - o Going out ideas: Bowling, Dinner, Laser Tag, Top Golf, Escape Room, Manicures, Coffee/Dessert. Choose an activity that promotes bonding.
 - o Staying in ideas: Board games, card games, poker tournament, scrapbooking, gender-specific discussion about a specific topic.
- Serve – Pick a non-profit organization and volunteer with them. Spend your normal meeting time serving your community/city in the name of Jesus. Use the [Service Opportunities Guide](#) for ideas.

WEEK 5 (IF THERE IS ONE) | YOUR CHOICE

- Format this night however you like. Please don't take this night off. Make it a point to meet every week of a semester in order to maintain strong community.