



The Seven: Community

November 26 | Group Discussion Guide

Begin with a psalm, prayer, and some opening questions (10 minutes).

Read Psalm 133:1-3.

After reading, spend a few moments in prayer, thanking God for your time together and asking him to make you a community-centered people.

Then, share about a time in your life when you felt like you had the greatest sense of community. When was it? What was it like?

Discuss Scripture and the sermon (30 minutes).

Take a few moments to read Scripture and reflect on some questions that relate to the topic of community.

- What role have relationships or community played for you in your relationship with Jesus over the course of your life?
- In his sermon, Emerson talked about community through the lens of King David. Who were some of the people he mentioned? And what can they teach you about community?
- For David, the prophet Nathan was someone who encouraged him and also spoke truth to him. Read their exchange of accountability in **2 Samuel 12**. Why is it important to have Christian brothers and sisters who can *both* encourage you and challenge you?

- David not only had Nathan around him, but he also had his Mighty Men – people who were on mission with him. Read about their exploits in **2 Samuel 23:8-20**. Do you feel like your life group is similar to David and his Mighty Men, pursuing a common mission? How so? If not, why?
- Lastly, Emerson talked about Jonathon and how Jonathon died to himself to lift David up. Read **1 Samuel 18:1-4** to see how he does this. In what ways has your group been a community of sacrificial love for one another?

Transition to gendered small groups (25 minutes).

Ask a few questions about each person's time reflecting on their own:

- Earlier, you were asked about a time you felt like you had the greatest sense of community. When was a time you have felt the loneliest? Explain.
- How known do you feel in this group? How accepted do you feel? How does that potentially impact how you come to the group?
- Out of the three application points that Emerson mentioned: (1) Show up; (2) Be vulnerable; and (3) Embody the gospel. Which point was most relevant to you?
- What would it take for you to feel fully known, fully accepted, and thus fully loved in this group?

Come back together as a large group to finish with Scripture, logistics, and prayer (5 minutes).

1. **Read Acts 2:42-47**. What would it take for this group to become the community you long for – to be like this early Acts 2 community?
2. Make sure to inform your group about the study devotionals available to help you walk through our church's seven priorities! You can find that material at thecreek.org/devotionals.
3. Share any logistics that you need to talk through with the holidays coming up.
4. Finish your group session with prayer requests.