



Community Groups are used extensively as the primary vehicle for discipleship at The Gathering and run on a quarter system. There is one in the fall, one in the winter and one in the spring. During the summer weeks we don't meet in Community Groups but we still offer the Growth Guides as a tool to help you grow personally. The Growth Guides are designed to help you dig deeper into the weekly sermon on your own or with your family and are available each week along with the note sheets at church as well as online.

**USE THIS GUIDE TO PREPARE FOR THE DISCUSSIONS IN COMMUNITY GROUP.**

### Consider...

Use the summary and discussion below to review and apply this week's message:

#### Message Summary

Last week, we kicked off our Shipwrecked series talking about the power of alignment and were challenged by Amos 3:3 to realign ourselves with our King because being aligned with him is critical to any potential success in earthly relationships. This week, we built on that foundation by exploring what Paul called "the Gorilla Glue of relationships" - trust. Romans 12 is a powerful chapter that begins with an act of trust (offering ourselves as a sacrifice to God) and ends with a whole bunch of actions that require trust. Why is trust so important? It allows us to be involved even when we can't be informed, to give our best to our part, and to put grace in the gaps.

#### Discuss

Use the following questions to review and apply the points learned in the message.

- Do you find it hard to trust? Why or why not?
- What makes it easy to trust others? What makes it hard?
- Read Genesis 22:1-14 and discuss trust from Abraham's perspective in the story and then from Isaac's.
- Read Hebrews 11:8. How did trusting God allow Abraham to be fully involved even when though he wasn't fully informed? What would you have done? What would you have felt?
- How can we rebuild trust when it's been abused or broken? How can "glueing" ourselves to the goodness of God help us put grace in the gaps between what we expect and what we experience?
- Read Matthew 10:5-8. Remember that the people Jesus sent the twelve to actually ended up mistreating (and in most cases, killing) them. How can giving freely what we've received freely help us in our relationships when we go through tough seasons? How can trust through difficult seasons strengthen the bonds between us?