

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.

**COMMUNITY GROUPS ARE BETTER WHEN MEMBERS COME PREPARED. THIS GUIDE HAS BEEN PROVIDED AS A TOOL FOR THAT.**

## Consider...

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

### Message Summary

What an honor to hear one of our own – Alex Player – sharing with our church his testimony and how much our pastors have influenced his life! Of course, this is the gospel, isn't it? To be near God through Christ and near others as the church, and our church is blessed to have a culture of relationships, grace and honor. This week's message from Alex was just another beautiful example of that.

### Discuss

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

- What takeaway – if any – did you have from the message this week?
- Did you ever play “Follow the Leader” when you were a child? What was the most important part of that game? Read 1 Corinthians 11:1 and think about some of the people that have been leaders in your life. What have you learned from them, and how are you using their example to now set an example for others watching you?
- John 15:13 is a great example of what truly loving others looks like: sacrificial love that looks like Jesus' love. How can we lay down our lives for others (besides the obvious “jump in front of a bullet for them” answer!)?
- Read Romans 12:10 and then take the time to live it out! Write each group member's name at the top of a piece of paper and then take turns writing things that you appreciate about each other on them. You can take these sheets home with you to read for encouragement later!