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REROUTING | ONE PAGE SUMMARY

WELCOME

Thank you so much for your interest in facilitating a Rerouting group. We want to equip you with everything you need to have a great experience facilitating a group. We're here for you every step of the way so don't hesitate to ask!

- Discipleship Team

WHAT IS REQUIRED TO FACILITATE?

- ✦ Lead a group for 7 weeks.
- ✦ As a person: Live and model [the values of Gateway](https://gatewayfellowship.com/about) (gatewayfellowship.com/about).
- ✦ Encourage people throughout the week to engage in the YouVersion plan (more information is below).

CHILDCARE

Gateway will be offering childcare on Thursday evenings for this 7-week series. If you want to take advantage of this, use [this form](https://gatewayfellowship.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/194/responses/new) (https://gatewayfellowship.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/194/responses/new) to request childcare. We can also email you a list of approved sitters from Gateway if desired. Finally, you are always free to hire your own babysitter for your group. If you need financial assistance in order to do this, please let us know.

NEED HELP?

You will have a coach available to you so that you have help every step of the way. If you have a question please feel free to reach out to one of them! If they are unavailable or you have a technical/web question, please don't hesitate to reach out to us (info@gatewayfellowship.com). Thanks again for joining us on this journey!

HINTS ON FACILITATING

- ✦ Ideally have someone in the group host your group in their home. This helps others be involved in the process.
- ✦ Food is optional. If your group time is during the normal "eating hours" (7-9 am, noon, 5-7 pm), having a plan for food will be helpful.
- ✦ Group tends to last 1.5-2 hours.
- ✦ Encourage others to take turns facilitating.

REROUTING | THE 4 ESSENTIAL VALUES FOR GROUPS

THE 4 ESSENTIALS



A ROAD: BIBLICAL FOUNDATION

The road provides the pathway for the vehicle to travel on. When we stay on the road and follow the signs, we are more likely to get to the destination. The Bible is our road and it gives a clear and complete picture of what God wants done (His mission) and how He wants it done (His methods). You can make a disciple without a biblical foundation, but you won't be making a disciple of Jesus.



A PERSON: AN INTENTIONAL LEADER

A car doesn't get very far unless there is someone in the driver's seat with a key. This leader is driving the group toward the destination, or purpose. It helps if the leader has already made the trip and is familiar with the route!



A VEHICLE: A RELATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

The driver has to have something that drives – and something that accommodates passengers. Relationships are what God uses to communicate His truth and help people grow. Without relationships, the journey of discipleship can be boring and ineffective. Relationships create the environment where discipleship happens best.



A MAP: REPRODUCIBLE PROCESS

The final component for this successful journey is a map. Using a map helps eliminate the risk of getting lost or off-track from your destination. The road map for making disciples is the reproducible process. This process allows us to measure a disciple's progress – to figure out where they are in the journey so we have a better idea of what they need. And it teaches the disciple the route, so that they in turn can share it with others.

REROUTING | HOW TO FACILITATE

BEFORE GROUP

Your role as a leader before group starts:

- ✦ Read through the curriculum and discussion passages.
- ✦ Be aware of what God is showing you personally.
- ✦ Pray for your group members. Ask yourself, “What do I see God doing in each of them?”

DURING GROUP

Below are the steps we encourage you to take with your group. Each step is intentionally done to maximize Bible learning and disciple-making:

STEP 1: WELCOME

- Helps new believers, visitors, and members feel valued.
- Starts the moment someone arrives and ends when everyone is gone.
- Establishes a foundation for relationships.
- Helps bring focus and awareness.
- **Tool:** Icebreaker questions (available at www.gatewayfellowship.com/rerouting)

STEP 2: OPENING PRAYER

- Invites God’s Holy Spirit into our presence.
- Prepares our hearts for what God has for us.
- Shifts our attention from individual fellowship to the group.

STEP 3: PURPOSE/VISION CASTING

- Encourages relationship with God and relationship with others.
- Expresses the purpose of meeting as a small group.
- Helps prepare our hearts and minds for the group.
- **A simple vision statement:** “We are here to follow Jesus and help others do the same.”
- **Tool:** See Appendix 1 for more information on vision casting.

STEP 4: SMALL GROUP GUIDELINES

- Gives boundaries for people to operate within.
- Helps with the flow and pace of the discussions.
- Helps us value one another.
- Helps people to be more comfortable sharing deep and meaningful things.
- **Tool:** See Appendix 2 for a detailed description (digital version available at www.gatewayfellowship.com/rerouting)

REROUTING | HOW TO FACILITATE

USE THE PROVIDED CURRICULUM TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

STEP 5: SETTING THE SCENE (PRE-STORY)

This sections helps set up the story that is about to be told by sharing information such as:

- What happened before the story about to be told
- Background information about people or places
- Potential themes to be on the lookout for

STEP 6: TELL/READ THE STORY

- Having a person tell the story each week encourages their own spiritual growth.

STEP 7 (OPTIONAL): REBUILD THE STORY

- This ensures that the story being told is biblically accurate. It also helps others learn the story.

STEP 8: DEBRIEF THE STORY USING QUESTIONS

- The questions used to debrief the story intentionally challenges people to apply and practice what they have learned.

STEP 9: CLOSE IN PRAYER

- Prayer keeps us aware that it is the Holy Spirit that will help us to obey.

AFTER GROUP

Your role as a leader after group is driven by asking questions like:

- ✧ Who am I intentionally praying for this week?
- ✧ What needs can I or others meet?
- ✧ Do I need to have a follow-up conversation with someone from group this week?
- ✧ Who was absent from group?
- ✧ How is my group growing a heart for Lost people?
- ✧ How are our relationships deepening?

REROUTING | COMMON CONCERNS

COMMON CONCERNS IN FACILITATING

1. What do I do with the quiet/loud person in the group?
2. What if I don't like the person that you put in my group?
3. What do I do if someone is way off theologically?
4. What do I do if something comes up that seems too serious to just let go?

WHAT NEXT?

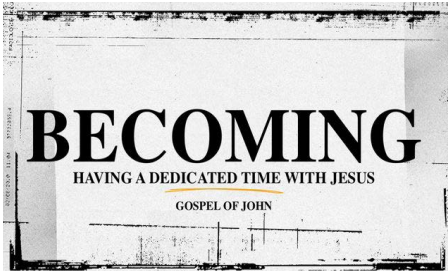
1. Make sure you've given us your email and phone number so we can keep you updated.
2. Start prayerfully filling your group. We can help you think through the circles in your life if you'd like.
3. Get your group listed with us by filling out the form that will come via email. I will make a group for us in CCB.
4. Join us on **Sunday, February 27th at 6:30 pm** for our prayer and commissioning night.

REROUTING | LET'S READ TOGETHER

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DEVOTIONS

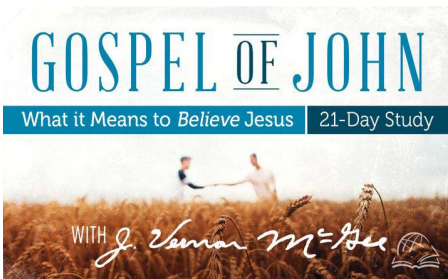
As a facilitator, we're asking you to challenge your group to read through the book of John twice during this series. There are two ways that people can keep track of their daily reading:

- 5. Set up a group on YouVersion reading plans.** You don't know how to do it? Either assign someone to it in your group or learn how in this one minute video: [YouVersion Group Plan: How To on Vimeo](#). If you still need help, contact your coach. We'll be happy to help!
 - Here are the names of the plans that you will search for and use:



ON MARCH 6, START:

[Becoming: Having a Dedicated Time with Jesus – Gospel of John](#)



ON MARCH 27, START:

[Thru The bible - Gospel of John](#)



ON APRIL 17 (OPTIONAL), START:

[Broken Signposts: How Christianity Makes Sense of the World](#)

- 6. Print off the [PDF version](http://www.gatewayfellowship.com/rerouting) (www.gatewayfellowship.com/rerouting).**

QUESTIONS FOR YOUR GROUP (SAMPLE)

JUSTICE

John 8:1-11 (woman in adultery)

Point: Jesus offers a different approach to justice than the world does.

Pre-story: The story you are about to hear takes place during the time of Jesus' ministry in which He is gaining both popularity from the crowd and consternation from the religious leaders. As you hear this story, listen for the theme of justice.

HEAD QUESTIONS:

- * Who are the main characters in this story?
- * What important things did people say/do to each other in this story?
- * If you have heard this story before, what stands out to you this time as new or different?

HEART QUESTIONS:

- * Of any character in the story, who do you connect with the most? Why?
- * What was the religious leaders' view of justice? How was Jesus' view of justice different?
- * What do you think was going on in the woman's heart and mind in this story in the beginning? What about after the final verse?
- * Where do you see justice in this story? Do you think Jesus acted justly in this story? Why or why not?
- * Why do you think God put this story in the Bible?

HANDS QUESTIONS:

- * What do we learn about being a follower of Jesus from this story?
- * What is one way you can participate in bringing about justice in your city/community/county?

VISION CASTING STATEMENTS

Vision casting in groups is simply answering the 2 questions:

- Why are we here?
- What do we hope to see happen?

It provides the group with a sense of purpose and direction and allows the members to understand their role in being there.

For Gateway, groups provide a place for deep community while also providing a space for people to grow in their ability to disciple other people spiritually.

You can find your own language for this, but our simple way of saying this is that:

“WE ARE HERE TO FOLLOW JESUS AND HELP OTHERS DO THE SAME.”

While there’s much more that could be said, that sums it up. We want to be better followers of Jesus and as a result of meeting, we want to help the people who we come in contact with follow Jesus as well.

REROUTING | APPENDIX 2: CONVERSATION GUIDELINES

GROUP CONVERSATION GUIDELINES

THIS IS A SAFE GROUP

Confidentiality is key, what is said in the group stays in the group. Be aware how you are affecting the environment: words, actions, and non-verbal communication. This needs to be a place where people feel comfortable opening up and sharing.

NO CROSSTALK

Be considerate of others as they are sharing. No side conversations, checking phone, responding to text or email, etc.

LISTEN

Let's value one another by listening to what is being shared. Allow a pause after someone shares to allow them to finish and others to consider what was said. Eye contact and body posture play key roles in creating a positive or negative group environment.

NO RESCUING OR FIXING

We are not here to fix each other, Jesus does that part. Avoid the tendency to rescue when someone is struggling to get the words out or shares a struggle or conviction.

USE "I" STATEMENTS

It's easy to talk about the issues of others or respond with "we", "us", "the church". But for us to grow as disciples and build relationship we want to use "I" statements.

DON'T OVER-TALK

We want to create time for all members of the group to participate in the discussion. Be careful not to always be the first responder or regularly give long responses.

FIGHT FOR RELATIONSHIP

It's not 'if' conflict or hurt feelings will happen, but 'when'. We commit to fight for relationship with each other. Go to that person and share your struggle or seek wise advice if you are not sure how to handle the conflict.

Though we call these Basic Group Guidelines, these are also essential in all relationships and environments. These should be observed whether in a 1-on-1 conversation or in a group discussion.

FAQs

Q: How do I get people into my group?

A: The best way is for you to invite them! Start inviting people now and if there's still room when we start doing sign-ups, we'll add people to your group, if you'd like.

Q: What if we have to go virtual?

A: Just let us know (info@gatewayfellowship.com) and we'll provide you with a premium Zoom account.

Q: Do we have to provide food for everyone?

A: Providing food is totally optional. Unless you enjoy providing food, we highly recommend having people sign up to bring food or have them eat beforehand.



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