

COMMUNITY GROUP TIPS

- Don't over complicate the process. Try to stick to the discussion questions as you understand them.
- Focus on the words of the guiding scripture and the sermon message from the previous week. Try to avoid referring to other passages or things you read elsewhere.
- Encourage everyone to share in sentences, not paragraphs.
- Give people time to respond. Silence is more than ok --it's prayer after all.
- Don't worry about teaching anything. A facilitator only facilitates discussion. You don't have to teach a thing.

FACILITATOR GUIDELINES

- Keep the session on schedule and complete each section. However, don't worry if you can't get to every question.
- Encourage everyone to add the Church of the Shepherd app, download the discussion guide each week, and share with one other person (or more if they want).
- Respond to questions by asking the group, "What in the passage or in the sermon helps us answer that question?"
- Respond to distracting comments by asking, "Where is that found in this passage or from this message?"
- Respond to "strange" answers by asking, "Help us understand what you are thinking."
- Try to have everyone in your group retell the Scripture in their own words at least once each sermon series.