

GROUP CHECKPOINT

OVERVIEW

While each person owns their own spiritual growth, this doesn't mean it's a solo endeavor. The most growth happens when others are part of the process. We benefit from others encouraging our growth, and we can play a part in encouraging growth in others.

This Group Checkpoint is intended to guide your group in a discussion to identify where you are today and to determine what adjustments you can make together going forward.

BEFORE THE VIDEO, DISCUSS:

- What has been your favorite part of this group so far?
- What has surprised you about this group?

WATCH VIDEO

VIDEO NOTES

Win for Groups: To create a small group environment where people can pursue authentic community and spiritual growth

From time to time, groups should ask, "How are we doing?"

Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

—Ephesians 4:15–16



Authentic Community = Being real as we grow and supporting others as they grow

The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

—Galatians 5:6



Spiritual Growth = A growing faith in God expressed by a growing love for God and others

Your group members can encourage and support one another's growth by asking questions like:

- How's God leading you?
- How are you responding?
- How can we help?



GROUP CHECKPOINT CONT.

AFTER THE VIDEO, DISCUSS:

1. Authentic community involves being real about your own growth and supporting others as they grow. How would you say your group is currently doing in this area?

NOT GOING
WELL AT ALL

COULDN'T
BE BETTER

2. There are several factors that influence how authentic community develops in a group. Take a minute individually to complete the questions below related to your experience in this group. Then share your answers as a group, and try to be as real as possible when considering the “why” behind each one.

RARELY

REGULARLY

- A. I make group meetings a priority.

- B. I have connected with other group members outside of group meetings.

- C. I can share anything with my group.

- D. I have experienced support from other group members.

- E. We challenge one another to grow in healthy ways.

- F. We leverage group time as a way to learn and grow together.

- G. We have fun together as a group.



GROUP CHECKPOINT CONT.

3. If authentic community develops when we are real about our own growth and support others as they grow, then...

- What should your group keep doing?
- What should your group start doing?
- What should your group stop doing?

4. Spiritual growth involves a growing faith in God expressed by a growing love for God and others. Since joining this group, which best describes how you are growing spiritually?

- Experiencing more growth
- Experiencing about the same growth
- Experiencing less growth
- I'm not sure.

5. There are things each of us can do to grow our faith. Take a few minutes to complete the questions below related to where you are today. Then share your answers as a group.

	RARELY	REGULARLY	I'M NOT SURE
A. I connect with God through prayer.	----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- -----		<input type="radio"/>
B. I prioritize spending one-on-one time with God.	----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- -----		<input type="radio"/>
C. I view my life circumstances through the lens of God's bigger story.	----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- -----		<input type="radio"/>
D. I am using my gifts to serve others.	----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- -----		<input type="radio"/>
E. I am intentional about investing in at least one person who does not currently follow Jesus.	----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- -----		<input type="radio"/>
F. In my daily life, I recognize that the Holy Spirit is working through me.	----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- -----		<input type="radio"/>
G. I see evidence in my life of the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control) being displayed to others.	----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- -----		<input type="radio"/>



GROUP CHECKPOINT CONT.

6. Spiritual growth involves movement. Any step forward is growth and every step forward is progress.

- What is one thing you could do to prioritize your spiritual growth?
- What is your next step?
- How can the group help?

MOVING FORWARD:

As it relates to growth, we can intend to take action but fail to follow through. In the days that follow, there will undoubtedly be things that distract you. Your group can act as a catalyst for moving forward. Make a plan to revisit what you've discussed in this study. You could plan time at the next few group meetings to check in. Perhaps you could prioritize a monthly check-in using this guide. In the event your discussion has surfaced topics you'd like to explore further as a group, we've provided some recommended group studies at groupleaders.org/groupstudies.

