

POINT GROUP LEADER GUIDE WINTER WEEK #5

Feb 22nd, 2025 |

This guide is designed to give helpful hints in preparing & leading your group in discussion.

LEADER NOTES

🔗 PRAYER NOTE

Remember, our goal isn't to scare people into public prayer! We would like to see our group come together and pray for one another. Be sure to check in on prayer requests from last week!

🔗 ANNOUNCEMENTS

BE SURE TO HAVE A LOOK! LET YOUR GROUP KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING!

🔗 DON'T FORGET YOUR SINGLES!

If you have singles in your group, make sure you're encouraging them in all of their relationships. While these truths are *designed* for Christian Marriage, they don't suddenly become un-helpful in other areas of their lives.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please read through these and make sure to mention them if they apply to your group.

Bold items are happening this week.

Mar 2 – Men's Breakfast & Kids Baptism Class

Parents, if your children have trusted in Jesus as their only savior and are interested in Baptism, please email jlee@pointharbor.com or fill out a connection card to sign them up for the children's Baptism class.

Mar 7 – Student's Movie Night

Bring your student out for a night of pizza, snacks, and popcorn and hang out! The event is from 6:30-9 pm.

Mar 8 – Serve Saturday

Mar 13 – Financial Peace University

If you have a Point Group Member struggling financially, ***privately*** invite them to join us for FPU on March 13th. This is a weekly class that runs until May 8th.

Mar 15 – Coffee Chat (Women's Min) in AM, JCH preaching

Mar 16 Annual Business Meeting

Come see what the Lord has done this year!

Apr 2 – Parent Workshop

If your parenting isn't perfect..... This is the workshop for you. There is no cost, and dinner is provided. This runs from 7-8 pm in Classroom c

Any additional information and signups are available on our website. If you have a member who needs more specific details, please have them send an email to Pastor Tim at ttrinkle@pointharbor.com

DISCUSSION/LEADER GUIDE

Warm Up

Sometimes questions like these need a primer – have a story ready of a time you made or ate a recipe that was a flaming disaster!

1. Marriage can be like a recipe – when you add a Man and a Woman with hearts tuned to Christ, you get... a wonderful marriage! If something is off, you get... well, who knows?

Have you ever accidentally left out an ingredient or put the wrong one in when cooking, and it turned out disastrous? What was that like? What happened?

2. How have you seen the past four sermons impact your day-to-day?

This is another example of a question that might need help getting started. Remember, you're not looking for a complete 180, a life change, or a couple in your group to say they've fired their divorce lawyers (although that would be amazing). Something simple is just as good! *"I've been making my wife tea before she wakes up,"* or *"I've made sure to ask about my Husband's day before reminding him to _____."*

Know It

Read Ephesians 5:33

1. How does understanding "Love & Respect" impact your other relationships?

Christian "love and respect" are life-changing. It doesn't make sense to respect a boss who isn't respectful or to love the person who put milk into your latte when you *clearly* stated that you're lactose intolerant! If *we* as a church can wholistically get this concept, it will *radically* change the Tidewater area! Encourage your group to share who they are having difficulty loving and respecting. Allow your group to get practical on this question. Avoid generalizations here.

2. In this passage, Paul talks about how men and women have different roles in their marriage. Why is this so important? What do you think happens when you add the wrong "ingredient" to this part of the marriage "recipe?"

This is a great moment to reinforce the idea that we are all equal but uniquely designed for different purposes. Think of it like this: "We don't take the Corvette muddin', and we don't take the Jeep to the drag strip." It's funny to imagine someone trying to win a Mud Bog competition with a brand-new sports car, but in reality, we often attempt things we weren't designed for—whether that's forcing ourselves into roles that don't fit or neglecting the roles we are meant to fulfill.

Now, apply that to relationships: What happens when a husband respects his wife but doesn't show love? Or when a wife loves her husband but doesn't show respect? Just like using the wrong vehicle for the wrong job leads to frustration and

failure, misunderstanding our roles in relationships can do the same. Guide your group to discuss how embracing both love and respect leads to healthier, God-honoring relationships.

3. Paul emphasizes sacrificial love. How can we apply that principle in relationships outside of marriage, such as friendships or within the church?

People are expensive – they take a lot of time...

Allow your group to get practical on this one as well!

Read 1 Peter 3:7

1. What does it mean to “Treat your wife with understanding”?

Let’s keep the “jelly on the bottom shelf.” – Understanding is defined like this in a commentary on the Song of Solomon:

Treating her with tenderness, care, and romance; protecting her from distress and danger (physically, emotionally, spiritually); examples: compliments, cuddling, flowers, taking her side in an argument, spending time with her just talking after a tough day.

David G. Moore and Daniel L. Akin, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, ed. Max Anders, vol. 14 (Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2003), 317.

2. How does a Husband learn to love his wife in such a way that would cause her to feel loved?

Watch her! Take notes! Guys, you’re crazy if you don’t have a notepad or a note app full of things you notice! When she shows you something on her phone she likes – GIFT IDEA. When she says she likes a restaurant – NOTATE IT; when she says she appreciated the coffee you dropped off at work, but it was terrible – FIND A NEW PLACE!

If you know something would be unique to her, but you think it’s a dumb idea – do it! She’ll feel so loved. But this only works if you give it a fair effort. Being the class grump during dancing lessons wastes everyone’s time...

Read 1 Peter 3:1-2

1. How does a wife’s respect for her husband impact his spiritual and emotional health?

Nothing is more potent than a wife who lovingly *respects* her Husband, regardless of whether he is worthy of the respect given. A Godly wife can win hearts that are nearly turned to stone. If given a little thought, this is a natural progression of the relationship between a man and his wife! Think of all the stupid and silly things you did for your wife before marriage. You NEVER would be caught doing those things for your teammates! There was just *something* about her that softened a heart to the point of embarrassing oneself for love! There is just *something* about a godly wife respecting her ungodly stone-cold husband.

2. Why is it so tempting to neglect respect and do/say what you feel is necessary to get what you need?

Live It

1. Have you ever found yourself in the "Crazy Cycle" where a lack of love leads to a lack of respect and vice versa? How did you break out of it?

2. How can you make sure you’re accountable? It’s easy to make a commitment to be more loving and/or respectful. How are you going to make sure you follow through?

This Week I'm Praying For...

Use this space to take notes on how you can pray for your group.

TIPS ON GROUP PRAYER

Prayer is an essential part of being in a Point Group. Over the years, we've all been a part of an awkward prayer circle! To avoid that, have a look at these tips.

WE PRAY FOR ONE TOPIC AT A TIME - Anyone in the group is free to introduce a prayer request, either before prayer begins or during prayer time. Once a topic is introduced, the group focuses on that request alone. Once it's covered, the group moves on to the next topic.

PRAY MORE THAN ONCE - Because the group is focusing on one topic at a time, each person is encouraged to pray several times during the prayer time for those topics they feel most led to pray about. No one is required to pray.

WE KEEP OUR PRAYERS SHORT AND SIMPLE - Group prayer goes better when members keep their prayers short and to the point. When someone prays for a long time, it's hard for the other members to stay focused, and long prayers tend to intimidate those who are just learning to pray out loud in a group. No one is required to pray out loud.