First Year Community Group Curriculum Pathway // 2025-2026

Jumping into life together in a small group is exciting, but it can also be a bit overwhelming. A lot of times, Community Group leaders take a democratic approach, asking the group what they want to study. But too often, that just leads to "analysis paralysis"—debating what to study, when to study it, and how to go about it. Plus, many groups don't even realize how many great study options are out there! That's why we've taken the guesswork out of it and put together a solid first-year curriculum for you.

1. **August** – If your group is just getting started or still has open spots, start by connecting with *GroupLink* using our Church Center App. This event runs throughout August and gives you the chance to meet new people who share similar interests and are looking to join or start a Community Group. The Adult Ministry Team will come alongside you during this time to help place new group members into your group as well.

2. August – September/October

Here are three curriculum options to get your group started in the right direction!

Group Launch

A two-part study from NorthPoint Community Church. When you begin a new journey, it's helpful to have a map for the road ahead. As your group begins, this 2-part study will help you plan your course and ensure that everyone is headed in the same direction. You'll also get to know the people you'll be traveling with during this next season. Are you ready?! The guide references Story Cards. While not necessary, the office does have some you can borrow.

Embark

A RightNow Media Study. Do you want to be part of an incredible, transformational, talk-about-it-the-rest-of-your-life kind of small group? Our groups should be bursting with life, depth, and the kind of authentic community Jesus modeled. In this six-part study, launch your small group based off *The Cure for Groups*. Through videos, discussion questions, and group applications, your group will build a foundation for an amazing group experience.

Rooted (10-week study)

Acts 2:42-47 gives us an incredible picture of the early church fully living out seven key rhythms of discipleship—and because of that, God kept bringing more people into their community. The *Rooted* curriculum helps lay the groundwork for our church to not just learn these seven rhythms but actually live them out, both personally and together in community. This is robust and great, but we do suggest it's for groups that meet weekly. It will last the entire semester.

Be sure to incorporate...

- During the first semester, we encourage your group to use at least two of your regularly scheduled group meetings to have a fellowship-only time. This can be a potluck dinner or cookout, a get-together with both parents and kids, a dinner out to eat, etc. The goal of this is to simply get to know each other.
- One time during the first semester, serve together as a group. This can be a service project through our Rolling Hills Community Center or with one of our Local Missions Partners. This will also be a part of the Rooted curriculum.

3. October - November - Topical Study (6-7 weeks)

Starting in January, we've provided four suggestions for your group to study based on specific topics. Access each resource at rollinghills.church/groupresources or at Right Now Media.

- **Find Your People** Choose from the 7-session video-based study or chapter book from Jennie Allen with practical solutions for creating true community in today's world. Access the videos through RightNow Media.
- Art of Marriage (for Married Couples) A 6-session video study with workbook or group study guide to use with teaching from 20 different Bible teachers on the topic of marriage and building a Christ-centered partnership with your spouse.
 Videos are available on RightNow Media.
- Spiritual Gifts: What They Are and How to Use Them After taking the spiritual gifts assessment, walk through the 6-session Bible study by Dan Darling.

4. January – March 5 Sermon Questions

5 Sermon Questions – Each week, we provide five questions for your group to discuss based on the sermon from Sunday. You can access them at the Church Center App.

5. April - May - Scripture-Based Study (4-6 weeks)

For the second half of the spring semester, we encourage your group to go through a Scripture-based study. Access each resource at rollinghills.church/groupresources.

- a. **Psalm 23** Walk through this 6-session video-based study from pastor Matt Chandler on trusting God with our needs. Access the videos and study guide through RightNow Media.
- b. **The Book of Jonah** In this six-session series, pastor David Platt shows us that God is determined to spread his Word to all the nations of the earth and use his people to do it. Access the videos and study guide through RightNow Media.
- c. **Your Choice** Choose a book of the Bible to dive into as a group. Have your group read one chapter a week (for example) and discuss it during your group meeting. One suggestion: choose a book that is shorter, so that your group can get through the entire book in 4-6 weeks.
- d. **5 Sermon Questions** Each week, we provide five questions for your group to discuss based on the sermon from Sunday. You can access them at rollinghills.church/groupresources or at the Church Center App.

6. June – July – Break from Regular Group Meetings

- a. We know summer can be a hectic time, and meeting weekly may be difficult. But we also believe that staying connected matters! We don't want the community you've built to fade away. So, we encourage you to keep doing life together, even if it looks different from your regular meeting times. Here are a few ideas to help you stay connected:
 - i. Grill out, go to a park, have dinner together. Do some sort of "social" every couple of weeks.
 - ii. Men do an activity with just the men, and women do an activity with just the women.
 - iii. Note: We highly encourage you, as group leaders, to take a break from your regular rhythm to avoid burnout. During the summer is also the time to evaluate if your group has any changes that need to be made for the coming fall semester.

After you've completed your first-year curriculum, the Adult Ministry Team will help guide your group in choosing the right study options based on your group's interests and needs.