

Leaders Guide

Point Groups Fall '25

This guide is designed to give you helpful hints on preparing for and leading your group in discussion.



Fall '25

Week 2 // September 26-27

Leader Notes

- Reach out to those who missed last week
- Remember – Money is a sensitive topic. Make sure you're prayed up and ready to approach this issue with grace and love. What to know our church's stance on giving? Have a look here: <https://www.pointharbor.com/give/> and watch the video.
- Note on Prayer. Check out the Tips on Group Prayer at the end of this Leader's Guide.

Attendance

- Make sure you take the time to get your attendance in! We can't love our people well if we don't know where they are... If you're having trouble, please let us know.
mblakeslee@pointharbor.com

Upcoming Events

Any info can be found [@pointharbor.com/events](https://pointharbor.com/events)

- **OCT 11th – Serve Saturday**
Join us in giving away thousands of pounds of food in Cradock, Portsmouth. Meet in Afton Square behind the Fire Station (32 Prospect Pkwy, Portsmouth, VA 23702) at 8:30am.
- **OCT 11th – Crowder Concert**
Join the NextGen Ministry as we head to the Grace & Glory Tour on Saturday, October 11 at 6:00pm at the Portsmouth Pavilion! *Ticket purchase & registration required*
- **OCT 18th – Beauties Feast**
Hey ladies—this day is for you! Beauty's!
It's happening right here at Point Harbor, and we'd love for you to come! Bring a friend, register early, and get ready for an afternoon of encouragement, connection, and plenty of joy. (Lunch is included!) *Event is for all ladies 18+*
- **October 26th – Trunk or Treat**
Join us for a fun-filled evening at our Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 26 from 5:30–7:30pm! Bring the whole family to enjoy a safe and festive night of getting treats from creatively decorated trunks.

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Warm-up

Have you ever bought something totally worth the money? Something you'd replace immediately if needed?

Conversation Caution: Not everyone is on the same playing field financially, if this question is making people feel uncomfortable feel free to move on.

Conversation Tip: This is supposed to rapid fire, we don't need to know why a \$150 electric coffee cup is a worthwhile purchase – **don't spend more than 3 minutes on this question** as a group.

What's the most generous act (big or small) you've ever seen someone do?

Group Dynamics: This question can potentially trap people who like to talk! We want to share quick anecdotes, not delve into local history.

Know It

Philippians 4:10–23

In Philippians 4:11–13, Paul talks about learning contentment. What do you notice about how Paul describes being “content” in every circumstance?

Discussion Goal: Draw out that contentment isn't *automatic* but learned through trusting Christ.

Leader Tip: If you're going to name some difficult circumstances that you've had to be content with, make sure you wisely select personal stories as not to alienate your group. For example, complaining that you had to wait in a drive-through too long in front of someone who's experiencing food insecurity isn't conducive to a good environment.

According to verses 14–18, what role did the Philippians play in Paul's ministry? What stands out to you about their partnership?

Leader Note: Highlight their repeated generosity and how Paul valued their spiritual fruit more than the gift itself.

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In verse 19, Paul makes a powerful promise. What do you observe about who meets needs and how those needs are supplied?

Fun Discussion: If you have time, discuss that God is meeting needs, *from his glory*, take some time to imagine with your group how radically God could meet some needs you're facing right now

Live It

If giving is supposed to be a "priority" (first fruits), how could that challenge or change the way you handle your finances right now?

Discussion Caution: This question has the opportunity to ruffle a feather or two.... Gently guide the group to discuss what might need to change in their own lives. We encourage cross-talk, but we aren't financial planners, and we don't know other people's situations. If cross talk is taking place that you think might damage the group's time together, feel free to move on.

Discussion Info: The way that things are automated now can make this tricky... By the time we get paid, some of us only "see" 70-80% of our actual pay (gross vs. net). But biblically, Point Harbor believes that a biblical tithe is still 10% of gross. Refer to the giving page link for more information.

Paul talks about giving as both a sacrifice and a blessing. How have you personally experienced God providing when you've been generous?

Story Time: "let 'er RIP" Allow the sharing of longer stories here. It's so cool to see the blessings of God!

Do you feel like God is asking you to take a step on the ladder? What's one action you can commit to this week?

Leader Note: Spiritual growth takes place when we faithfully obey. If one of your group members has identified something that needs to grow, allow the group as well as yourself to encourage them with easy, attainable next steps.

How can your Point Group be praying for you in this area? Be specific.

Leader Note: Obviously take prayer requests and pray for them, but this is a section for specific prayers related to the challenge the Holy Spirit is making on their hearts, related to this sermon and Point Group Study.

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TIPS ON GROUP PRAYER

Prayer is an important part of being in a Life Group. Over the years, we've found that group prayer goes better when we follow three simple guidelines.

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.