



Community Groups are used extensively as the primary vehicle for discipleship at The Gathering and run on a quarter system. There is one in the fall, one in the winter and one in the spring. During the summer weeks we don't meet in Community Groups but we still offer the Growth Guides as a tool to help you grow personally. The Growth Guides are designed to help you dig deeper into the weekly sermon on your own or with your family and are available each week along with the note sheets at church as well as online.

## USE THIS GUIDE TO PREPARE FOR THE DISCUSSIONS IN COMMUNITY GROUP.

### Consider...

Use the summary and discussion below to review and apply this week's message:

#### **The Big Idea**

*Sometimes you have to leave what's comfortable to live what's possible.*

#### **Message Summary**

*What's worse than being in the wrong place? Being comfortable in the wrong place. When God's people are in that condition, God uses discomfort to call us back to the original purpose for which we were redeemed. Over the next few weeks, we'll see various examples of this in Scripture, but we'll always stay close to the story of Abraham. It was his obedience to God's call out of comfort and into covenant that allowed him to become a conduit through whom God could bless the world. Now, as followers of Jesus, we, too, must choose to leave what's comfortable so we can live what's possible. Like Abraham, it's all about trusting the call and plan of God, even when we don't understand.*

#### **Discuss**

Use the following questions to review and apply the points learned in the message.

- If you've left home (for good), describe what that was like. When did you first leave? Why did you leave? Who or what did you take with you and who or what did you leave behind?
- Describe a time when you made a significant, personal sacrifice in response to God's directive.
- Genesis 11:31 tells us Terah and his family set out for the land of Canaan from Ur, and settled in Haran. Do we have ideas about why the family does not move on from Haran to Canaan? What are they? Why those? Are there any other possibilities?
- In Genesis 12:1, God says to Abraham "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you." If you were in Abraham's position, which of these instructions would be most difficult? Which would be least difficult? Why is that?
- Of the 3 calling killers that Abraham faced (chains, pains, brains), which would be the hardest one for you to overcome as you start walking out of comfort and into your calling?
- To what place or people might God be calling you?
- How are you allowing God to use the discomfort of COVID-19 to clean you out and make you a better conduit of His blessings?