

Small Group Discussion Guide for Cory & Melissa Speer's Story

Objective:

*This discussion guide is designed to help your group reflect on the testimony of Cory and Melissa Speer, focusing on the **Essentials of Connect the Unconnected** and **Shepherd Toward Spiritual Maturity**. The goal is to inspire your group to foster relational connections and invest in the spiritual growth of others through thoughtful reflection, Scripture exploration, and practical application.*

Opening Prayer:

Begin with a prayer, asking God to guide the discussion, reveal ways to connect with others, and equip each person to shepherd others toward spiritual growth.

[Watch the Video:](#)

Watch Cory and Melissa Speer's story together, paying attention to how their testimony reflects the importance of connection and spiritual growth.

Discussion Questions:

Head (Understanding and Knowledge)

Connect the Unconnected ([Acts 2:42-47](#) | Church Sphere):

Cory and Melissa's story highlights the transformative power of being connected to a church community. Their connection led to deeper relationships and spiritual growth.

- What steps did the church take to connect Cory and Melissa to the community? How did those connections impact their lives?
- Why is it important for the church to intentionally connect those who are unconnected?

Read: [Acts 2:42-47](#)

- What practices of the early church helped people feel connected to God and to one another?
- How can we, as a group, adopt these practices to connect others in our community?

Shepherd Toward Spiritual Maturity ([Colossians 1:28](#) | Church Sphere):

Cory and Melissa's story also demonstrates how intentional discipleship helped them grow in their faith and equip others.

- How did Cory and Melissa grow spiritually through their connections at church? What role did mentorship play in their transformation?
- What does it mean to "present everyone fully mature in Christ"?

Read: [Colossians 1:28](#)

- How does this passage challenge us to invest in others' spiritual growth?
- What practical steps can we take to help others grow in their faith?

Heart (Personal Transformation and Growth)

Connect the Unconnected ([Hebrews 10:24-25](#) | Church and Home Spheres):

Being part of a community transformed Cory and Melissa's relationships, including their family dynamic and faith journey.

- How has being part of a church community or small group helped you grow in your faith?
- Are there people in your life who are unconnected? How can you help them feel welcomed and supported?

Read: [Hebrews 10:24-25](#)

- Why is it important to "not give up meeting together"?
- How can we encourage each other to stay connected and grow in faith?

Shepherd Toward Spiritual Maturity ([Ephesians 4:15-16](#) | Church Sphere):

Spiritual growth happens in relational environments where individuals are supported, challenged, and loved.

- What has helped you grow spiritually in your relationships with others? How can you provide that same support for someone else?
- How can we, as a group, help one another mature in our faith?

Read: [Ephesians 4:15-16](#)

- How does "speaking the truth in love" contribute to spiritual growth?
- How can we practice this in our group to help one another mature in faith?

Hands (Action and Application)

Connect the Unconnected ([Luke 15:4-7](#) | World Sphere):

Cory and Melissa's story shows the importance of pursuing and welcoming those who feel disconnected.

- Who in your life might feel unconnected or isolated from faith? How can you reach out to them this week?
- How can we, as a group, create a welcoming environment for those who may feel hesitant to connect?

Read: [Luke 15:4-7](#)

- How does the parable of the lost sheep reflect God's heart for those who feel disconnected?
- What steps can we take to show this same care for others in our community?

Shepherd Toward Spiritual Maturity ([2 Timothy 2:2](#) | Home and Church Spheres):

Cory and Melissa grew through intentional discipleship, which prepared them to disciple others in turn.

- Who has discipled or mentored you in your faith journey? How has this impacted your life?
- Who can you intentionally invest in to help them grow spiritually? What steps can you take this week to start?

Read: [2 Timothy 2:2](#)

- What does this passage teach about the importance of passing on what we learn to others?
- How can you apply this by mentoring or guiding someone in their faith?

Practical Application:

Connect the Unconnected ([Acts 2:42-47](#)):

Challenge group members to invite someone who may feel unconnected to join your small group or attend church.

- Who can you reach out to this week to help them feel more connected to the body of Christ?

Shepherd Toward Spiritual Maturity ([Colossians 1:28](#)):

Encourage group members to identify one person they can mentor or invest in spiritually.

- What specific action can you take this week to help someone grow in their relationship with Christ?

Closing Prayer:

Close the discussion with a prayer, asking God to help each member foster connections and guide others toward spiritual maturity. Pray for specific individuals the group is seeking to connect or disciple.