



FACILITATOR BOOKLET

Mission Statement

Home groups are to be intentional groups of individuals who experience life together through fellowship, worship, serving, active growth and evangelism, through love and obedience to Christ.



Expectations

Respect

Encourage and allow for positive discussion and interaction between all individuals

Begin and end on time, while being sensitive to the flow and needs of the group

Communication

Gather contact information and stay connected with the group

Maintain and model honesty and confidentiality

Work to make discussions all-inclusive

Safety

Provide a safe and welcoming environment for all attendees

Encourage confidentiality, which shapes the overall safety and growth of your unique group

Structure

Use provided material (intro video, Scriptural passages, etc)

Help cultivate a unique atmosphere, while being sensitive to the Spirit's leading

Keep open communication between FBC office, the facilitator, host home, and coach

Provide weekly updates to your coach

Look to disciple someone or train a new facilitator(s)

Prayerfully look to launch a new Home Group as the group consistently remains at 15+

Elements

Fellowship

Food – either have a meal or just snacks

Ice-breaker – have a fun or serious question for everyone to answer

Game – a simple, quick game like Pictionary

Trips – plan extra-curricular trips together (i.e. hike, picnic, mini-golf, etc)

Rhythms – come up with something your group does every time you get together (i.e. take a pic, share a fun fact, show and tell, sharing your “highs and lows”, etc)

Worship

Songs – sing 1-3 songs with a guitar, or even just a cappella, or even a drum circle as impromptu music!

Praises – share the good things God is doing

Scripture - read the Psalms together (some groups read one verse at a time and pass it around).

Video – watch a worship (lyric) video or “sermon jam”

Creativity – share a Bible passage in a unique way (i.e. painting, share in your own words, etc)

Serve

Share - establish a means of sharing prayers and needs in the group (i.e. sending cards, email chain, etc)

Tasks – assign individuals to elements for the group (i.e. food, materials, contact, etc)

Brainstorm – work together to determine ways to serve somewhere together once a month/quarter (i.e. Jubilee Kitchen, Ronald McDonald House, etc)

Visit - encourage each other to visit each other or family members when in the hospital

Meals - make and/or deliver meals to each other or those in need around you

Active Growth

Church – take advantage of the materials provided by FBC

Discussion - everyone bring your sermon notes to discuss!

Lead – change who leads every week, or even rotate responsibilities

Follow-up – set up a way to follow-up with each other or keep the discussion going outside the gatherings (i.e. social media, texts, etc)

Challenges - make practical action points for everyone to do that week

Evangelism

Gospel - have someone else share the Gospel each week

Testimony – have a different person each week share their story of faith in Christ

Prayer – have a time of prayer dedicated to praying for the lost

Resource – share a “tool” for sharing the gospel (i.e. share a unique tract, a book, a “method” of sharing)

Street - go door-to-door for evangelism or set up a prayer station in town

Sample Itinerary

Pre-Meeting 30min. - Meal (optional!)

1. 5min - Welcome, Ice breakers, fellowship time
2. 5min - Worship time (Ex: 2-3 songs, reading a Psalm)
3. 10min - Read the Bible passages provided together and watch the intro video
4. 20min - Talk through questions provided by Pastors
 - a. Suggestion: Break out into smaller groups of 3-5 people (men with men, women with women where possible)
 - b. Recap your discussion(s) when group comes together
5. 10min - Action time - Come up with a service project and/or evangelistic opportunity and create action steps towards your goal(s)
6. 10min - Close in prayer - Suggestions: move beyond “just” sharing requests by getting everyone involved the more you meet, allowing others to lead and changing up how you structure this time

Post Meeting: Host and/or facilitator contacts their coach to give an update as needed (see “Coaching questions” section)

Coaching Questions to Expect

1. What went really well?
2. What was the toughest part of the meeting?
3. If you were coaching yourself, what would you suggest to yourself (based on the 5 elements of a healthy small group)?
4. Anything that we can do as leadership to help your small group? (to pray for, to intervene, coach, etc.)

Notes Page (for training)

Move from monologue to dialogue: to see everyone engaged in discussion together

Move from audience to participants: to see everyone become a participant as much as possible

Move from performance to empowerment: to see more take initiative & responsibility

Move from isolation to congregation: to see the group grow in true fellowship

Laugh -> Live -> Listen -> Love -> Leverage
