



HOST 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.



Thank you for opening your home to a small group! We are praying for you and your group, that you would grow in all the areas mentioned in our Home Groups Mission Statement above. Your willingness to host a group shows your love for God and those around you and we are so excited to see your group blessed by your faithfulness. If you've never hosted a group before, we've listed some suggestions below. The biggest key to a successful Home Group is not matching plates or fancy napkins - it's your open and welcoming heart!

Expectations:

- Provide a safe, clean and welcoming environment
- Communicate with your Facilitator - you are a team

A Few Ideas Prior to Start of Group:

- Work with your Facilitator in setting a comfortable maximum number of attendees as well as the date and time of the group's gathering.
- Work with your Facilitator on any AV needs that the curriculum would require
- Make sure there is adequate parking
- Let your neighbors know the day/time your group will be meeting if parking will impact them (this is a great opportunity to invite them!)
- Welcome your attendees by providing directions, parking instructions/tips, notification if you have pets (allergies) and any other nuances that they'd appreciate knowing ahead of time (ex: no shoes policy, potluck expectations, dietary concerns, etc.).

COVID-19 Safety Tips

- Sanitize door handles and other frequently used areas of your home before and after the group meets
- Have sanitizer pump available upon entry and/or in room where group will meet
- Wear masks - have a few disposable masks onhand in case someone forgets theirs
- Space chairs out by individual or couple - make sure to have an extra chair(s) readily available just in case
- Provide beverages and snacks in individually sealed packaging (ex: small bottles of water, individual bagged snacks)

Suggestions on Welcoming & Hosting Your Group

- Greet them at the door and take their coats/show them where coats can be hung (and where shoes can be left)
- Point out sanitizer pumps for their peace of mind
- Show them where the bathroom is
- Invite them to enjoy a beverage or snack
- Have a cup of pens and a box of tissues centrally located in meeting area

Sharing a Meal (Optional!)

- Make sure your meal is ready for when your attendees arrive - it is important to stay punctual
- Note any special dietary dishes
- Work out next menu with group if potluck-style - who's bringing what - and send out this info in a reminder/confirmation email to the group following the meeting
- Have some fun with the menu by theming it! (ex: Desserts Only, Breakfast-for-Dinner, Soups & Breads, Mexican food, bring a dish that starts with the first letter in your last name, etc.)

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)