



# Hosting Guide

This guide is designed to help you run a fun and engaging Bible study that encourages group discussion and spiritual growth. It covers important foundational principles for hosts and is intended to be used with the study outlines provided.

## Contents

- Preparation
- Structure
- Duration
- Keys to an effective Bible study

## Preparation

Take time before everyone arrives to prepare the study and create a welcoming environment.

### Prayer:

Ask God to guide you and direct the study in truth, wisdom and love. Ask Him to prepare the hearts and minds of guests for fresh revelation and a desire to apply what they learn.

### Study Outlines:

Preview the video and read the study outline. Reflect on each question and consider what your answers might be. Free free to skip questions or prepare your own based on the spiritual develop and needs of the group.

### Setting Up:

Craft a space in your living room that's inviting and comfortable for guests:

- Prepare snacks to share and boil the jug.
- Play some background music to create a relaxed atmosphere.
- Check there are enough seats for everyone.
- Arrange furniture to enhance group discussion.

### The Bible:

Encourage guests to bring their Bibles to look up verses during the study. Keep a spare handy.

## Structure

Schedule your Bible study into the following key parts:

### **1. Connect:**

Warmly greet each person as they arrive and provide space for guests to mix and mingle. This creates a relaxed atmosphere where friendships can develop and group discussion is encouraged.

### **2. Opening Prayer:**

Bring the study into focus with a brief prayer. Invite the Holy Spirit to guide and direct the group.

### **3. Recap:**

Summarise your previous study (if applicable) and invite participants to share any related testimonies. Were there opportunities to apply what they learned?

### **4. Key Thought:**

The key thought is a Bible passage which should be read aloud to the group. It forms the primary theme for each study and can be used to focus discussion and learning.

### **5. Play Video:**

Watch the video. Each teaching is designed to engage guests and inspire conversation.

### **6. Discussion:**

Read the study questions and invite the group to participate, allowing time for guests to respond and share. Let the conversation flow naturally and resist the urge to answer immediately. Don't be afraid of silence as participants pause to consider each question.

Remember, a good Bible study is an interactive experience where guests feel comfortable to be themselves, ask questions and share thoughts. Your aim is to facilitate a dynamic and encouraging group discussion that reveals biblical truths and inspires faith.

### **7. Pray:**

Prayer is powerful! Invite participants to pray for one another and for any needs raised during the discussion. This will help the group to bond and grow spiritually.

## **Duration**

The following times are approximate. We recommend keeping your Bible study to a maximum of one and a half hours.

**Connect:** 15 minutes

**Opening Prayer:** 2 minutes

**Recap:** 10 minutes

**Key Thought:** 2 minutes

**Play Media:** 10 minutes

**Discuss:** 30 minutes

**Final Prayer:** 10 minutes

**Total: Approx.** 80 minutes

# Keys To A Thriving Bible Study

Bible study groups are an essential form of Christian community. They provide space for seekers and believers to connect, ask questions and progress to spiritual maturity.

## **Relationships:**

The group dynamic will invariably shape discussion and the overall success of your Bible study. Where meaningful friendships grow you are much more likely to see fruit and spiritual progress. Genuinely care, support and encourage one another, especially through trials, to deepen relationships and show practical Christ-like love.

## **Respect:**

Mutual respect encourages participation and develops trust. Though views and opinions in the room may vary, group discussion must remain consistent with Ephesians 4:29, which says:

“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”

## **Openness:**

Deep, meaningful conversations flow from sincerity and openness. Where there is weakness or struggles, let grace and love abound.

## **Confidentiality:**

Confidentiality promotes openness, trust and authenticity. It's essential each person can freely share without fear of gossip and idle talk.

## **Prayer:**

Remain diligent in prayer and attuned to what the Holy Spirit is saying. He will guide, encourage and inspire the group. Where challenges arise, God's strength and wisdom will overcome.

Though some participants may be unaccustomed with the practice, we recommend persisting in prayer as a group. Any awkwardness will diminish in time and the benefits are too numerous and profound to overlook.

## **Participation:**

Everyone has a unique experience or insight that can add value to a group discussion. No one should dominate your time together, and no one should be overlooked.

While group participation is encouraged, it must never be forced. If a person simply wishes to listen, then that's fine too.

## **Have Fun:**

Bible studies are not meant to be dull or boring. Bring it to life with laughter and joy. Groups bond and grow when people have fun together.



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