

HAVE A GREAT HOST GROUP MEETING

1. Begin your season as a Group Host in prayer. Prayer is the greatest factor for your group's success! Therefore, pray for wisdom, discernment and protection as you serve this season in building Christian community.
2. In advance of the first meeting, contact your members to welcome them to your Host Group. Provide information concerning your meeting method (virtual or in-person); address, if applicable; along with the day and time for your meeting. Send them the Host Group Covenant which will be discussed during the first meeting with the entire group.
3. Use the Host Resource tools to assist you in organizing the information for your group meeting.
4. During the first meeting, go through the Host Group Covenant to clarify the direction, expectations and commitment for your group. Have each group member sign and date the covenant and provide you with a copy.
5. Do not Host alone, share roles with the members in your group. Provide a roster where members may sign-up to serve one-another by providing the opening and closing prayers, leading worship, supplying snacks and overseeing prayer requests. Remember this is a group where everyone is growing together in community.
6. Decide if you would like to have group members view the sermon message either before or during the meeting. If it is during the meeting, you will need to allocate 45-60 minutes of your time for the sermon. **You may access the sermon on You Tube through Monday at 11:59pm Central Standard Time.**
7. Either send or have your group members access the sermon study guide. It is posted Saturday evening before the Sunday sermon. Have the study guide with you as you listen to the sermon and make notes on points to discuss further within your group. **The study guide may be accessed either from of the OCBF website at www.ocbfchurch.org/studyguide or the Church APP.**

8. Encourage prayer partners among your members and consider rotating them every couple of weeks. Have members contact each other between meetings for prayer which may contribute to building deeper connectivity.
9. Establish how you will allocate the time for your meeting. On average a group meets for 1 1/2 to 2 hours. With 4-12 members in a group, it is important to manage the time well, allowing for each member to contribute to the discussion. Following is a typical allocation for a 1 1/2 hour (90 minute) meeting:
 - a. 10 minutes: Members Joining the Meeting and Greeting One Another.
 - b. 20 minutes: Worship, Prayer and Praise Reports.
 - c. 50 minutes: General Discussion of the sermon study guide
 - d. 10 minutes: Wrap-Up and Closing Prayer.
10. During the sermon discussion, provide an opportunity for each group member to contribute to the conversation. This is a time for discovery, not teaching, and application of the Word of God in our growth as kingdom disciples.
11. If you have any questions or concerns, provide them to your Coach who is there to walk alongside you as you serve.
12. Relax, Have Fun and See God at Work!