

Small Group Leader

guidelines for hosting a small group

1 Provide an Atmosphere of Love.

A small group centered and focused on the word of God in an atmosphere of love and acceptance can be a transformational experience for anyone seeking God's will and direction for their life. As a small group leader you have the incredible opportunity to offer the love of Jesus to whomever God brings to your group.

2 Weekly Prayer and Connect Time.

Pray for each person who comes to your small group daily. Connect with her once a week with an encouraging text, phone message or note. Keeping in contact with your small group will instill a sense of value and belonging and increase your the love of Jesus within your small group time.

3 Set guidelines from the beginning.

Empower women to understand the value of growing and learning together.

- Have a start and an end time and to respect women's busy schedules. Encourage the women to feel free to share their answers.
- Encourage women who tend to share a lot realize that there are many women in the group who will want to share. If you find yourself being the first person to answer every question, then you might not be giving others the opportunity they need to share.
- No one is required to answer and will not be called on to share answers.
- Anything shared within the group must stay within the group.

Modeling the same guidelines to your women that you want shown within your group will speak volumes to your women. So be careful not to answer every question, and try not to top off anyone's answer. Silence is not to be feared. It's okay if someone doesn't speak up right away. Waiting is a good thing. Avoid answering questions just to fill in the silence.

4 Suggested Timeline

The suggested time for this small group session is approximately one hour:

The first ten minutes can consist of a welcome and prayer time.

The next 30-40 minutes can be sharing time discussing what verses were chosen, what words were discovered and how it changed or spoke to each woman, areas of application and desire for transformation. Encourage women to share any prayers that were written. Transparency is encouraged as well as a commitment to keep all information that is shared within the group.

The last 10 minutes can be devoted to praying together with each other.

A short devotional will be posted each Friday at <https://jillfulkerson.com/over> the scriptures that were studied that week.