

Leading a Weekly Ekklesia Group

Congratulations! Starting an Ekklesia Group and making time to meet weekly to grow in experiencing God! Your commitment will have eternal rewards and results. It is so important that we continue to gather as the Ekklesia, in small groups, wherever we are and throughout the week. **Hebrews 10:23-25** gives us a strong encouragement: *“Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.”*

As you start up your Ekklesia Group, here are a few ideas and suggestions:

General ideas:

- **Size doesn't matter.** Remember that an Ekklesia can be as small as two people. In Matt. 18:20, Jesus said where two or three gather as His followers, He is there.
- **Choose a format.** Decide whether you will meet virtually or in-person. There are a lot of options for a virtual meeting such as Zoom, FaceTime, Google Hangout.
- **Make your weekly Ekklesia Time a priority.** It is so important that we gather and grow together in our relationships with God.
- **Schedule a regular day and time for your weekly Ekklesia Time.** It is so much easier to keep the schedule than trying to find a day and time every week. You may want to make it a special time on Sunday nights after dinner.
- **Send reminders to your group.** Take time to send reminders for your weekly meetings.
- **Encourage everyone to do their Daily Lessons.** The 5 Daily Lessons for each Unit are the heart of this Campaign. Each lesson will take about 15-30 minutes a day. It is a great way to spend time with God every day.
- **Encourage everyone to memorize the Bible verse for each Unit.** You will find Memory Verse cards for each Unit in the back of the workbook.
- **Pray for your Ekklesia Group daily.** Pray for every member of your group and encourage everyone to pray for each other during the week.

A general schedule you can follow:

1. **Gather your group together.** Make sure everyone has their workbooks, Bibles and memory verse cards.
2. **Welcome God into your gathering.** Ask the Holy Spirit for the manifest presence of Jesus and for His leading. Pray for God to speak to every person and that you would all experience God in a deeper way.
3. **Celebrate Communion together.** Take time to thank God for His love and sacrifice for us through Communion. Some verses you could read aloud and use: Matt. 26:26-30; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:14-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-30
4. **Sharing time.** Take time to share any stories where a person experienced God during the week or any answers to prayer. Celebrate what God has done!
5. **Introduce the main truth and memory verse for the Unit for the week.** There is a short story at the beginning of every unit. Read that story aloud. There are memory verse cards in the back of the workbook.
6. **Share memory verse with each other.** Every week, have everyone recite the verse from memory. Cheer everyone on!
7. **Discuss.** Pick a question from the Discussion Questions for the Weekly Broadcast (you can find this on our website under “watch.”). You can also pick an item from the Unit to discuss as an alternative. Give everyone an opportunity to share.
8. **Pray.** Share prayer requests and have everyone write them down. Take time to pray for each other.

9. **Encourage.** Close your time together by encouraging each other to do the Daily Lessons and memorizing the memory verses. Encourage your group to watch the Weekly Broadcast and keep up with the Daily Lessons.
10. **Midweek “touches.”** Encourage the group to text prayer requests that come up during the week. It really brings the group closer together.