

# Home Group Leader Guide:

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## **Welcome:**

Let me start by saying thank you so much for taking the time to gain more information on what it looks like to be an effective home group leader. This means you've either signed up to lead or are interested in what it takes to become a leader. Either way, I think you'll see there's plenty to learn about leading a home group that will better equip you to be a great group facilitator.

## **Location:**

The first question that comes to mind with leading a group is: where should we meet? Each home groups meeting location will look a little different with our current context of COVID-19, but in general groups should try to meet in a comfortable location that's easily accessible by everyone in your group. This could be someone's living room, a meeting room at the church, a zoom meeting, or even an outdoor picnic. Check in with your group members to see what will work best for them and be sure to let Pastor Josh know where you end up meeting. The only thing your group will need is a way to view our weekend service (or if it's better for your group they can watch it ahead of your meeting) and a space that encourages group conversation.

## **What Will Meeting Together Look Like:**

Our goal for home groups is to accomplish 3 big things:

1. View our church wide weekend service (50 minutes)
2. Discuss how we can apply what we learned (25 minutes)
3. To pray with and encourage one another (15 minutes)

Adding this up means your group will take about an hour and a half. The main elements you will need to make your home group happen is access to the video of our service and the provided discussion questions. These can both be found on northlakeonline.org by clicking "home groups" under the "ministries" tab.

## **Defining A Win:**

When we step forward to lead others it's always a good idea to define what success looks like (or what we call a win). In the context of leading a home group the biggest wins would be that people leave feeling connected to other believers, have a clear application step on how they can grow spiritually, and have a desire to come back next week. When we keep these wins in mind it takes away unnecessary pressure on us as leaders.

## **Further Questions:**

We realize every group is different and you may have more questions that would better equip you to lead a group. Please don't hesitate to reach out to Pastor Josh so we can answer any questions you have. Along with that, if your group has any kids (ages 2-12) we'd love to connect you with our nursery & children's ministry so you can create a great home group experience for all ages.

That about wraps up what you need to know to be a great home group leader, but here's one more video resource that gives a great overview on how to be a great discussion group facilitator. It's just 7 minutes long and called: "How To Facilitate A Small Group Meeting" by Corrie Bowman at Saddleback Church. Click this link to check it out: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2WF2CR\\_fk1M&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2WF2CR_fk1M&feature=emb_logo)

Thanks for taking the time to review this guide and be sure to stay connected with us so we can keep you up to date on any changes or additions to help your home groups be the best that they can be.

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