



Week One.

H.O.S.T. GUIDE

Week One.

STRENGTH TO SUSTAIN YOU

01

Meeting Agenda

As people are arriving, encourage new group members to fill out the Contact Information sheet and create a name tag. Materials provided in the H.O.S.T. kit.

Welcome (10 minutes)

Introduce yourself. Share something you are looking forward to about this group experience.

Distribute Participant Guides and pens to each group member.

Please do not distribute T-shirts until week 5. If you are a new group that has not yet registered, please be sure to collect T-shirt sizes for everyone in your group and click the link below.

Take attendance on sheet provided in H.O.S.T. kit. If you are an established group, you can continue to take attendance via the attendance reminder email.

Ice Breaker (10 minutes)

Take a few minutes to have each group member introduce themselves and answer the following question: *Would you rather spend a weekend retreat in a 5-star hotel or camping surrounded by beautiful scenery?*

[CLICK TO REGISTER](#)

Meeting Agenda

Introduction (5-10 minutes)

Please take the next few minutes to read the introduction and answer the starter questions found on page 2 of your Participant Guide.

Into the Word (25 minutes)

Read through the Scripture passages and answer the questions on pages 3 and 4 of your Participant Guide.

*For additional insight, refer to **Into the Word H.O.S.T. Guidance** on pages 4-7.*

Application (25 minutes)

As a group, read and discuss the application questions on page 5.

Closing (10 minutes)

Close out your time together by reading the Closing Prayer.

Decide as a group if you would like to continue sharing snacks during your group time. We have included a snack sign-up sheet in your H.O.S.T. Kit.

Challenge your group to commit to pray the morning and evening prayer and journal a response each day this week. The prayers and journal space can be found on pages 7 and 8.

Into the Word.

H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE

1

READ HEBREWS 10:22-25

Why does the author of Hebrews warn readers about neglecting to meet together? What benefits of meeting together are mentioned? During seasons when you have been unable to meet together, what did you miss the most?

GUIDANCE

It is God's will that we draw near to him as it says in verse 22. He wants us to have sincere hearts and a strong faith! He wants us to be free from guilt and set apart from sin. Equally important, we are to encourage one another toward love and good deeds. If we fail to continue meeting together as a church and in our small groups, we lose the opportunity to encourage each other, to spur each other on, and help each other grow stronger in our Christian life. Paul writes to Timothy that "evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived" (*2 Timothy 3:13*). Therefore, it's vitally important that we stay connected to each other, protect each other, and encourage each other.

Into the Word.

H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE

2

READ ACTS 2:1, 42-47

How did the early church experience community? How do you see the church of today practicing community? How are they similar or different?

GUIDANCE

They were all together in one place. They stayed connected to each other almost on a daily basis. They studied the apostles teaching together, they enjoyed meals together, and they prayed together. They shared their resources so that nobody was lacking basic life necessities. Their outlook grew more and more positive as their fellowship deepened. Their community was contagious and they gained the favor of all the people around them.

Into the Word.

H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE

3

READ ACTS 2:5-12

How did the miracle of Pentecost demonstrate the power of the unified church? Because they were together, all the believers experienced the miracle of speaking in unlearned foreign languages. The work of God through the church was echoed farther, louder and longer. How do you think God is working through our church today to show His glory to our community all around us?

GUIDANCE

As the church continued to gather together in the Temple, God's spirit fell upon them. They were united in faith, which was a glue holding them together. God did a miracle using each one of them to speak praises to God in a language they had not learned. Just as on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2, God continues to use his people to demonstrate his power. As each of us influences those around us for Jesus, and as God uses us collectively in ministries and community engagement, God glorifies himself and allows people to Find Hope in Jesus.

Into the Word.

H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE

4

PETER DENIES JESUS

Peter denied Jesus when he was alone, but beginning with Acts 2:14, notice how Peter proclaimed him openly and boldly as he was surrounded by fellow believers. How might you account for such a transformation?

GUIDANCE

Obviously, the coming of the Holy Spirit which we just read about, had a dramatic effect on Peter. The Spirit poured out courage and boldness on Peter. He was able to speak words that brought conviction to the hearts of the people listening. But it would be a mistake to overlook the fact that Peter was surrounded by brothers and sisters in Christ. No doubt, Peter took courage from being among his fellow Christians. He was not alone, and neither should we be alone.

We are better together.

Fairhaven

find
hope.