



Week Five.

H.O.S.T. GUIDE

Week Five.

A PURPOSE TO LIVE FOR

05

Meeting Agenda

Welcome (10 minutes)

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. If you have been using the paper version to mark attendance, please take a picture of the attendance sheet and email it to hdunlap@fairhaven.church.

If you have not done so already, please distribute T-shirts to your group. **Encourage your group to wear their T-shirt to church on October 31.** We will be celebrating how God is working at Fairhaven.

If you still need to pick up shirts, you may do so at your campus office Monday through Friday between 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM or at the Group Life station during any of our Sunday services.

Ice Breaker (10 minutes)

Take a few minutes to have each group member share one place, one person or one event that has had the biggest impact on their life.

Introduction (5-10 minutes)

Please take the next few minutes to read the introduction and answer the starter questions found on page 34 of the Participant Guide.

Meeting Agenda

Into the Word (25 minutes)

Read through the Scripture passages and answer the questions on pages 35 and 36 of the Participant Guide.

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

Application (25 minutes)

As a group, read and discuss the application questions on page 37 of the Participant Guide.

Closing (10 minutes)

Close out your time together by reading the Closing Prayer on page 38 of the Participant Guide.

Take a picture of your group with the caption “Better Together” and post it in your campus Facebook group. Your photo might be selected for an upcoming video.

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 39 and 40 of the Participant Guide.

The Better Together series will conclude on 10/31. Remind everyone to wear their shirts that day. As a group, plan a time of fellowship and celebration during the week of 10/31. This will be an opportunity to reflect on the series as well as discuss your next step as a group.

Into the Word.

H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE

1

READ ACTS 2:45-47

What would you say was the purpose of the early church in Jerusalem? How was that purpose apparent to those on the outside who were watching them?

GUIDANCE

One aspect of purpose was their gathering together as a redeemed community of people devoted to following Jesus. Their gathering was joyful and generous. They cared for one another in practical ways. Their focus was in praising God for all he had done for them. Those who were watching from the outside had to have seen the genuineness of their faith and their loving relationships. Who among us would not want to join a community such as this? And apparently many people were drawn to the community and were being saved as God moved in their hearts.

Into the Word.

H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE

2

READ MATTHEW 28:19-20

What are some ways the command (Great Commission) might have affected the behaviors and lifestyles of the early church? How does that command relate today to Fairhaven Church in Dayton?

GUIDANCE

The Great Commission motivated the early believers to hold their possessions with open hands, and be willing to share what they had with anyone who had need. In order to do that one must appreciate that the rewards in this life (e.g. money and possessions) are not worthy to be compared to the rewards in the next life. They were willing to lead a sacrificial life, understanding that they were strangers and aliens in this world (*1Pet. 2:11; Heb. 11:13*).

Into the Word.

H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE

3

READ EPHESIANS 5:25-27

How does Paul describe Jesus' love for the Church? In what way is the Church sanctified or "holy and without blemish"? Do you think these verses still describe Jesus' love for the Church? How might this relate to giving us a purpose to live for?

GUIDANCE

Jesus' love for the Church was sacrificial. He gave himself in willing sacrifice to sanctify and make holy a people gathered for his namesake. He has provided everything the Church needs so that we can be presented before him without spot or wrinkle. Only through the precious sacrifice of Jesus' blood can we ever hope to be holy and without blemish. The mission of Jesus is still ours: to reach people for Jesus and gather them into loving and growing churches. It's an eternal purpose, and is worthy of our devotion.

Into the Word.

H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE

4

READ EPHESIANS 4:11-14

How does Ephesians 4:11-14 relate to God's purpose in the Church? How might that purpose relate to you?

GUIDANCE

This passage helps us to see that God is always at work within his Church to help people grow to maturity in their faith in Jesus. He wants to use the Church to reach and disciple others with the intent that we would be stable in our faith and fruitful in our service to God.

Fairhaven

find
hope.