

Guidelines for Small Group Participants

Beginning of each meeting

- Start on time and end on time. Arrive early so you are settled when it's time to begin.
- Notice and welcome any new participants. Introduce them to the rest of the group.
- Plan to read the book chapters ahead of time so you are ready for the discussion.
- Silence your cell phone. Avoid texting and side conversations during group meetings.

During each meeting

- Maintain confidentiality. What's said in the group stays in the group.
- Listen well. Be sensitive to how long you share. Don't talk too much or too little.
- Encourage all group members to participate. Ask questions to draw people out.
- No fixing, solving or rescuing. Give encouragement, show warmth and caring but don't try to give solutions.

After each meeting

- Appreciate and thank the group leader. If possible, offer positive feedback.
- Read the book chapters for the next meeting.
- Pray for the group, including individuals who are struggling in their lives.
- Tell others about the book, the lessons and how the discussions are helping you.