

TALK IT OVER

BOLD FAITH OVER PEOPLE PLEASING

ICEBREAKER (Start Talking)

What skill or passion do you have the most confidence in?

INTRODUCTION (Start Thinking)

This week, we will discuss how to be bold in speech and action in sharing our faith as we invite others to Easter.

READ (Start Sharing)

We often avoid risky situations to protect ourselves from rejection, criticism, or loss. Read **Hebrews 13:5-6***. If we lean on God to help us witness to others, we can overcome any fear of rejection. **How has your faith helped you to be bold in the face of adversities such as judgement from others?**

READ (Start Sharing)

Read **Philemon 1:8-14****. Paul had the boldness and authority in Christ to command his favor. Instead, Paul makes a request that appeals to what he knows about Philemon. When we try to force God on others it can push them away. **What can you learn and apply from Paul's example when it comes to sharing your faith and inviting people to Easter?**

READ (Start Sharing)

Read **Acts 4:29-31*****. This Easter we need the boldness described in Acts 4. As the believers met in prayer, they were filled with the Holy Spirit to help them share their faith boldly. **What can you do to invite a fresh filling of Holy Spirit to help guide you in boldly testifying of Christ this Easter?**

WHAT WILL YOU DO (Start Doing) Lean on God and pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you in your texts, phone calls and/or conversations with others to join you this Easter.

PRAYER (Start Praying) Dear Lord, thank you for the power of your Holy Spirit which helps me share my faith. Help me to be courageous to witness and boldly invite people to church to share in the glory of Easter. In Jesus name, amen.

READ GOD'S WORD DAILY using S.O.A.P.

Day 1:

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Romans 8:31 (NIV)

Day 2:

...God has said, "I will never, never fail you nor forsake you." That is why we can say without any doubt or fear, "The Lord is my Helper, and I am not afraid of anything that mere man can do to me."

**Hebrews 13:5-6 (TLB)*

Day 3:

For this reason I could be bold enough, as your brother in Christ, to order you to do what should be done. But because I love you, I make a request instead...

***Philemon 1:8-9 (GNT)*

Day 4:

After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness.

****Acts 4:31 (NLT)*

Day 5:

The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.

Proverbs 28:1 (ESV)

TIPS FOR ONLINE SMALL GROUP

- 1. HOSTING A SMALL GROUP MEETING ON ZOOM.** If you are interested in hosting a small group on zoom through New Hope Windward, let us know. Our small group team will help you get started. Zoom training is available.
- 2. EMAIL INVITE.** Ensure to send out a calendar invite with the meeting details and how to connect to the meeting platform on zoom.
- 3. REMINDER DURING THE WEEK.** Keep everyone in your group connected by sending a reminder during the week of your upcoming small group meeting.
- 4. START ON TIME & STICK TO YOUR TIME SCHEDULE.** For your scheduled meetings, it's recommended to get started within 5 minutes of your scheduled start time. Most small group meetings are held for about 60 minutes.
- 5. ZOOM'S BEST PRACTICE.** Familiarize yourself with the Zoom features on your electronic device. It is helpful for everyone to know where the mute button is located. Ask the attendees to self-mute to avoid environmental noise when someone else is talking & sharing. Doing this will help with the flow of your SG discussion time.
- 6. DOWNLOAD ZOOM APP.** In order to participate in the Online Small Group, download the Zoom App from your iPhone or Android. You may also download the Zoom App from your laptop PC or iPad device.

TIPS TO IN-PERSON GROUP

- 1. START & FINISH ON TIME.** Doing this will show your small group you value their time.
- 2. BE COMFORTABLE WITH SILENCE.** Uncomfortable silences are bound to happen. It's okay! A long pause during a group discussion can be powerful. A *pause* gives space for quieter people to break into the conversation; silence allows people to figure out exactly what they would like to say.
- 3. CONFIDENTIALITY IS IMPORTANT.** Confidentiality is the key to building trust in relationships. Here are a few mottos to remember to be confidential: "What is said in small group, stays in small group." **Nothing, nobody, never...** *"Share nothing, to nobody, never"* outside of the group.
- 4. MAKE GROUP A PRIORITY.** Communicate in advance when you will be unable to attend by either calling and/or texting your host or responding to the zoom email invitation by accepting or declining. This will help your host to plan accordingly especially if it is an in person small group gathering.
- 5. AVOID TALKING or TEACHING TOO MUCH.** Small groups are designed for everyone to share and grow together.
- 6. ASK FOR HELP.** The Small Group Ministry is here to help. Email smallgroups@nhww.org to ask any questions, request training or other assistance for your Small Group.