

FIREPOWER

ENCOUNTERING THE HOLY SPIRIT

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

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SERIES OVERVIEW

Boom! The Holy Spirit dropped & Jesus kept His promise of sending the Holy Spirit pouring out His power. The result? Life changing!

SERIES SCRIPTURE

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Acts 1:8 (ESV)

IN PERSON SMALL GROUP GATHERING COVID-19 GUIDELINES

**Please continue to observe the following guidelines
from CDC & State of Hawaii mandates:**

No more than 10 people (indoor gatherings)

Wear a mask

Maintain 6 feet social distance

TIPS TO A SUCCESSFUL GROUP

- 1. WELCOME NEW PEOPLE & START & FINISH ON TIME.** Take time to introduce new people. Starting & finishing your meeting on time will show your small group you value their time.
- 2. BE REAL, AUTHENTIC & TRANSPARENT ABOUT WEAKNESSES & STRUGGLES.** Some people in your group may be new to faith or new to small group often think there's a *right* way to answer discussion questions—or at least a few *wrong* things to say. So, they show up and listen in, but don't feel permission to say what's really on their minds. Set examples by sharing honest vulnerable answers. Sharing with a level of vulnerability sets the tone and gives permission for everyone—regardless of spiritual maturity—to respond authentically.
- 3. PLAN SOMETHING FUN.** Due to our current COVID-19 social distancing recommendation from the local government and CDC, we ask that any special and fun gatherings in person follow the guidelines of no more than 10 people gathering indoors. In addition, practice social distancing of 6 feet apart and wearing a mask.
- 4. NO GUILT, NO SHAME.** This series is not meant to guilt or shame anyone into doing anything.
- 5. SMART PHONES & BEST PRACTICE.** Take advantage of some useful texting app like GroupMe or WhatsApp to send quick updates, share prayer request as well as an opportunity to connect beyond your once weekly meetings. And as a courtesy to those who are sharing in your group during your meeting, please try to stay off your phones unless for emergencies. It is okay with the exception of the use of your smartphone device for online meeting (Zoom).
- 6. 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.
- 7. 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.
- 8. 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.
- 9. AVOID TALKING or TEACHING TOO MUCH.** Small groups are designed for everyone to share and grow together.

TIPS FOR ONLINE SMALL GROUP

- 1. SEND OUT AN EMAIL INVITE.** Make sure to send out a calendar invite with the meeting details and how to connect to the meeting platform on zoom if your group meets online and/or in person.
- 2. SEND OUT A REMINDER DURING THE WEEK.** Keep everyone in your group connected by sending a reminder during the week of your upcoming small group meeting. You can do this by using text message &/or email.
- 3. ONCE ON THE CALL, START ON TIME.** For your scheduled meetings, it's recommended to get started within 5 minutes of your scheduled start time.
- 4. HYBRID GATHERING (ZOOM & IN PERSON).** If you're meeting together on Zoom, 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. If your group decides to meet in person, please practice safe social distancing by following the guidelines of being 6 feet apart and wearing a mask.
- 5. STICK TO YOUR TIME SCHEDULE.** Most small group meetings are held for about 60 minutes.
- 6. DOWNLOAD ZOOM APP.** In order to participate in the Online Small Group, download the Zoom App from your smart phone, lap top PC or iPad device.
- 7. HOSTING A SMALL GROUP MEETING ONLINE.** If you are interested in hosting a small group online through New Hope Windward, let us know. NHWW small group team will help you get started. Host & Zoom Trainings are available weekly.
- 8. BREAK INTO SMALL GROUPS.** For larger online groups on Zoom, it is best to break up into groups of 3-4 people during the discussion segment. Zoom has a feature that allows individuals to be grouped together in smaller clusters. This can increase more transparent conversations and provide more time for each person to join the conversation.