

SPRING SMALL GROUP: FORMAT OF MEETINGS

7:30 – 7:45: FELLOWSHIP

- Each week, allow 10-15 minutes at the beginning for people to arrive and catch up.
- You can also use this time to ask icebreaker questions. This might especially be important in the first several weeks as people are still getting to know each other.

7:45 – 8:00: LIFE STORY

- Each week, someone in the group should share their Life Story. Start this from the very beginning with one of the leaders going first to model what we expect.
- Don't forget to allow time for questions from the group at the end.
- Consider having the person that shares one week pick the person for the next week. This prevents you from always having to wait for a volunteer.
- You might chose to have a week where you only share Life Stories. Groups have done this in the past with the goal of finishing everyone's story by the end of the first semester.

8:00 – 8:50: DISCUSSION

- Most leaders stress out about the curriculum. You're not going to know the answer to every question, and that is okay.
- That said, leaders should understand the big themes behind each week and direct application questions towards the theme.
- Rely on the Leader Resource Page for helpful information and outlines for discussion.

8:50 – 9:20: PRAYER

- As a leader, you will have to work very hard to make this time meaningful. You facilitate discussion, but you are a leader when it comes to prayer.
- Always encourage prayer that is spiritually substantive and lead by example by being willing to be vulnerable and open yourself.
- Don't forget to set aside a couple of weeks each semester to not split up and pray all together. When you do this, make sure to pray for GBC and the partner organization/missionary you have been assigned.