

WEEK 0 - INTRODUCTION / EXPECTATIONS

Your first meeting is the most important of the year. Make sure to impress upon your group the significance of their commitment and the high standard we expect of their participation.

INTRODUCTION (40 MINUTES)

- Allow people to arrive, talk, and snack.
- Have participants introduce themselves and share how they found GBC. (Make sure to email contact information after meeting.)
- Optional: Play some sort of icebreaker. A suggestion is Two Truths and a Lie: Everyone tells three things about themselves, with two of them being true and one being false. The group tries to guess which one is false.

MATERIAL / EXPECTATIONS (20 MINUTES)

- Discuss the purpose of the groups – to equip people with foundational truths and ministry skills that will help them be active participants in ministry.
- Go over the expectations for leaders to describe your role.
- Go over the expectations for participants, highlighting that the success of your group will depend on their collective commitment.
 - Worship: Attendance at GBC on Sundays helps put the curriculum in context, both relationally and biblically. (This is also an opportunity for you to mention which service you attend and invite participants to sit with you.)
 - Attendance: Consistency in attendance is critical. 75% attendance is the minimum standard.
 - Material: Everyone should work through the book completely every week. The more prepared everyone is, the more they will get out of it personally and the better they will be able to participate in group discussion.
 - Scripture Memory: Explain that there are verses every week to memorize and why memorization is important.
 - Life Story: At some point throughout the year, every participant should expect to tell their life story in 10-15 minutes. (An outline to help guide this time is on page 3.)

PRAYER (30 MINUTES)

- Separate men and women and explain the purpose of this time.
- Ask for a volunteer to email out the prayer requests every week.
- Have everyone answer the following questions:
 - What are you most looking forward to getting out of this group?
 - What is the one thing that might hold you back from participating in the group at a high level?