Session 6

Team Huddle Notes

WHY AND HOW SHOULD I READ THE BIBLE?



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WELCOME

We hope you find the team huddle notes helpful in preparing your hosts and helpers each week, whether your Alpha is meeting in person or online.

This guide is designed to give you ideas and relevant information to share with your team. We don't recommend utilizing this as a script, but rather a set of talking points.

If you are leading Alpha in person, you may want to ask the worship leader to prepare a song of worship for the prayer time. If you are doing Alpha online, you can screen share a song to help the team set their hearts on worship. YouTube has a great assortment of worship songs and videos that you can share during this time.

Plan for the team huddle to be roughly 20-30 minutes.

6-10 Minutes: Prayer

5 Minutes: Administration

10-15 Minutes: Small Group Coaching

If you are running your Alpha online, be sure to log in to MyAlpha and find this companion resource, Complete Guide to Alpha Online. You will find a list of other helpful links at the end of these notes.

We have created a separate pdf that includes icebreakers and discussion questions for your hosts and helpers. You can send it to your team in preparation for each week. Log in to MyAlpha "Materials" to find these host/helper notes.

Would you like to connect with and get to know other Alpha leaders? **Grow Alpha** is an online training opportunity to help uniquely equip and empower your Alpha team and leadership, while **Alpha Connect** provides an opportunity to connect with others who are running Alpha. Find out more here.

We are praying for you,

The Alpha Team

PRAYER WITH THE TEAM

The session talk is "Why and how should I read the Bible?"

Psalm 19: 7-11
"The law of the Lord is perfect,
refreshing the soul.

The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy,
making wise the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right,
giving joy to the heart.

The commands of the Lord are radiant,
giving light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is pure,
enduring forever.

The decrees of the Lord are firm,
and all of them are righteous.

They are more precious than gold,
than much pure gold;

they are sweeter than honey,
than honey from the honeycomb.

By them your servant is warned;
in keeping them there is great reward."

Pray for the guests to experience God's love in a very real way.

P - Pause

Invite the Holy Spirit to come, wait in silence, and welcome his presence.

R - Rejoice

Thank God:

- For the guests who have already signed up for the Alpha weekend.
- For the guests who are starting to pray and have a relationship with God.
- For God's work in people's hearts.

A - Ask

Ask God for the guests:

- That even more guests would register for the Alpha weekend.
- That their desire increases to read God's Word and know about Jesus.
- That the small groups would continue to have engaging conversations.

Ask God for the team:

- For continued wisdom around introducing prayer and reading the Bible.
- For the Holy Spirit to fill them and speak through their questions.
- To radiate God's love for the guests.

Y - Yield

Yield to God's love for you. He loves you and wants to minister to you.

ADMIN

IN-PERSON | ONLINE

- The Alpha weekend will be _____.
- The team training for the Alpha weekend will be on _____. This training is very important for all hosts and helpers to attend. We will talk about how to pray for guests during the Alpha weekend, as well as week 9 when we look at "Does God heal today?"
- (In-person) Consider carpool arrangements for the Alpha weekend.
- It would be good to have someone share their experience of having gone on the Alpha weekend (2 minutes or less) to help encourage guests to register. Take time to pray for them during the team huddle, as they may be nervous to share in front of the group. This is a great chance to honor them and for God to use their story to inspire others to attend the Alpha weekend.
- If you are using worship songs, continue to add one new song and repeat a song from a previous week.



Notes

HOST AND HELPER NOTES



IN-PERSON



ONLINE

SMALL GROUP COACHING

BIG IDEA

This week, we are looking at "How and why should I read the Bible?"

1. Remember to pitch the questions low. Don't start by saying, "Isn't it exciting? Isn't reading the Bible amazing?" That is starting out with too high of expectations.
2. Start by asking simple questions, such as, "Has anybody tried reading the Bible? What did you think?" The lower the pitch, the bigger the range of possible answers and potential conversations.
3. At the end, if there is a lot of interest, you could mention that Nicky Gumbel has an app for reading the Bible called Bible In One Year.
4. Helpers: This is a great place for you to share if you have struggled with reading the Bible. You will encourage conversation if you (briefly) share about those times of doubt or struggle.
5. The Alpha weekend is quickly approaching. Make sure a few of you share briefly about your own experience. Let guests know that we'd love for them to join us, even if they can't be there the whole time.
6. If you sense your group is ready, end the night with prayer. The lead host can begin, and each person will have the opportunity to pray. They can simply say "pass" if they don't feel comfortable praying. Hosts and helpers, remember to keep your prayers short.
7. Make sure one helper does not pray out loud, just in case one guest also does not pray out loud. This will help the guest to not feel alone.

Notes



GROUP GOAL

To raise curiosity about the Bible and help it seem more accessible.

PERSONAL GOAL

Introduce guests to a few different ways to start reading the Bible more often.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Icebreaker:

What is your favorite book and why?

1. What did you think or feel about the talk?
2. Has anyone ever tried reading the Bible? What was your experience?
3. How do you feel about the idea of God speaking through the Bible?
4. Does anyone have any practical suggestions about how to read the Bible? (At an appropriate point in the discussion, you might recommend the Bible in One Year app: Bible In One Year.)

Notes

Helpful links: Start by logging in to MyAlpha

1. Alpha Best Practice Videos - https://run.alphausa.org/training/7-best-practices
2. Learning Center - https://run.alphausa.org/training
3. Complete Guide to Alpha Online - https://run.alphausa.org/training/running-alpha-online-new/complete-guide-to-alpha-online-pdf-new

We'd love to hear from you.

Thank you for running Alpha! We are praying for you and your team.

Please contact **1-800-Do-Alpha** or email us at **questions@alphausa.org** if you need any further information or support.

We'd also love to hear your Alpha stories. Submit your stories at **alphausa.org/share-your-story.**

