



Pervasive Hope Starts With Me.

TIPS BEFORE YOUR FIRST MEETING

SPEND SOME TIME IN PRAYER | The week leading up to your meeting spend some time in prayer for the group. If you know the names of those that are coming, take some time to pray for them by name. Pray that God will use this time for everyone to get to know each other better and for them to get to know Him better.

SPEND SOME TIME TO UNDERSTAND THE MATERIAL | The day(s) before your first meeting spend some time looking over and understanding the material. The goal is not for you to be the 'teacher' or come across as the 'expert'. We don't want you to be rehearsed (we are ALL IN this together); we just want you to understand the direction of the study that week.

CHILDCARE | If childcare is going to be necessary, a few days before your group meeting, make sure that you have communicated to the babysitter the details: meeting time, location, etc. It's also a good idea to communicate to the group if there's a need to 'chip in' for the babysitter.

CALL / TEXT / EMAIL YOUR GROUP | A few days before your meeting, contact (call/text/email) everyone and remind them of the details for your group meeting. Let the group know some key specifics: where you will be meeting, what time you will be meeting (start + end time), if they need to bring anything, and your phone # in case they get lost.

BE TIME SENSITIVE | One of the best ways that we honor people is by respecting their time. So make sure that your group *starts* on time and *ends* on time!

This may seem insignificant but you never know what's happening behind the scenes in people's lives. Some may have a babysitter at their home waiting for them to return, a spouse that didn't come may be waiting for them, their kids may have homework still, or a work project still needs to get finished, etc.

By being time-sensitive and communicating the start time and end time, this can help people focus and fully engage in the study instead of looking at their watches wondering when it's done. End on time. If people are free to hang out for a bit, great! However, allow those that need to leave the freedom to do so.