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## Guide to Family Bible Talks

### Example Family Bible Talk Schedule

7:20-7:30 – Arrival

7:30-7:40 – Welcome, Singing, Good News (Kids), Prayer (Kids)

7:40-8:10 – Interactive Bible Lesson

8:10-8:15 – Announcements & Prayer

8:15-8:30 – Fellowship and refreshments

8:30 – Farewell

### What do we do with the kids?

Small-group meetings can be a great opportunity for spiritual memories for our kids. For preschool and elementary-school aged children, it is recommended they join the first part of the meeting (songs, good news, prayer), after which they can be excused to play during the lesson portion. Parents can take turns supervising the children. For teen aged children, it is recommended they participate in the lesson. For kids in-between these ages, give them a choice. Sometimes they'll choose to join the lesson, while other times they'll choose to go play. Those presenting the lesson should cater their lesson for a mixed age audience. Making sure the lesson is interactive is key.

### Can we periodically change meeting location?

A good rule to live by to make sure your group is FUNctional is: Be Consistent but not Predictable. This will also help with any guests that will want to visit your meetings.

**Bible Talk** – a group Bible discussion designed to help our visitors be saved. (Disciples benefit greatly too but we must never forget the primary purpose of the meeting.)

\*Biblical examples of the concept - Mark 2:1-2; Acts 19:8-10

### Advantages in comparison to Sunday service:

- People can come who can't come Sundays.
  - People can come who are actively involved in another church.
  - A lot of people have had "bad experiences" with church and won't come initially.
  - More direct opportunity for every disciple to have impact on the lost.
  - Opportunity for visitors to build a friendship with a disciple.
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### Helpful practical tips:

- Every disciple makes it a priority to be present and contribute to the Bible Talk.
- Bring a physical Bible (for visitors who most likely won't have one themselves)
- Bible Talk itself should be about 20-30 minutes long but can go longer if a good discussion is taking place.
- Reach out and get to know all visitors there.
- Share personally during the discussion (i.e. "I know for me ...").
- Make comments that follow the direction established by the leader.
- Be concise in your sharing/comments.
- Always be sensitive to the presence of our visitors.
  - o Don't use church "lingo" or say negative remarks about other religions or churches
  - o "Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments..." (2 Timothy 2:23)
- Stay around afterwards for great talks, set up studies, etc

### Bible Talk Leaders:

- Must lead the discussion & group with confidence.
  - Prepare the Bible discussion by praying and knowing the needs of the visitors.
  - Get a lot of input!
  - Every Bible Talk should have ONE clearly defined point.
  - Keep Bible discussions simple and use topics that visitors can relate to.
  - It's best to use a parable, a short story in the Bible, or 2-3 scriptures max.
  - Five good discussion questions (clear, brief and directly relating to your main point) will be plenty.
  - Write your notes (not too many!) on a 3x5 card. (save them)
  - Humor, illustrations and personal dynamism of the leader are crucial! (Speak clearly with conviction)
  - Make discussions fun (something you would want to go to).
  - Open with a question that is not directly spiritual but will help you make your point. (Icebreaker)
  - Always close out the Bible Talk yourself summarizing the main point and challenging the group.
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