

Home Group “Ground Rules”

Confidentiality: What’s said in the group stays in the group.

Listening: Let’s value one another during the discussions by really listening to what is being shared. Try to avoid thinking about how you are going to respond or what you are going to say next.

Pausing: Allow a pause in conversation after someone shares to give the person sharing a chance to finish and give the group an opportunity to consider what was shared before responding.

Silence: It is important to allow silence in the group as it provides an opportunity for someone to share and for members in the group to process the topic or question being considered.

No Cross Talk: Be considerate of others as they are sharing. No side conversations.

No Fixing: We are not here to fix each other. Jesus does that. Give encouragement, speak truth, and point to Jesus. Don’t try to fix each other.

No Rescuing: When people are sharing something deeply personal, there can be a tendency to make them feel better about themselves or the situation by providing immediate condolences. This will often cause them to stop sharing. Resist the temptation to rescue people.

Sharing: Be sensitive about the amount of time you share.

“I” Statements: It’s easy to talk about the issues of others, but for our purposes, we want you to put yourself on the table. Try to use “I” statements rather than “they,” “the church,” “us,” “we,” etc.

Household Rules: We appreciate those who open their home up to a Home Group and out of respect to them we need to... (e.g., take shoes off, clean up toys afterward, put chairs back, leave by 8 pm, etc.)