

Freshening up times of prayer and fellowship in your group

From time to time how about trying one of these new ideas in your group time together:

Fellowship

Some ideas to freshen up your time of fellowship

- Could you invite people early sometimes for a bite to eat before HG?
 - o Or certain families every now and then?
- Could you play an icebreaker game?
 - o Dingbats? Would you rather?
- Could you have an interesting question to start discussion on a random matter?
- Could you invite different members to start the evening by sharing their testimony? Or a testimony of God's work in their lives recently?
- Could you sometimes bake a cake? Or ask someone who is a good baker in the group if they wouldn't mind bringing a cake one week?

Discussion: Talk with the people in your HG about how you could freshen your times of fellowship; settle on one new idea to try next term.

Prayer

It's vital! But it doesn't need to always look the same

Could you:

- Sometimes pray in pairs
- Sometimes in small groups
- Sometimes in one big group?

- Have a focus on one family/ member? And warn them ahead of time? (need to be organised so you don't miss people out!)

- Pray through the Bible Study first, before moving onto the 'shopping list' of needs.

- Encourage (and be insistent!) on a particular theme for prayer, eg. Praying for non-believing friends, praying for our town, picking a nation from operation world

- Make the most of your group members; is there a member in a particular vocation or job with some insight into a world that they could share and you could then pray for? Is there a member from a particular country and you could ask them to share a little about the needs of that nation and pray for that country etc?

The style could also vary.

How about:

- Sometimes playing some music and providing people with paper and a pen to write down their own prayers, or praying silently
- Singing together in the middle of a time of prayer (with tinned music, or someone with a guitar if you are so gifted in your group!)
- Praying standing up (!) – can also mean you move around the room easier and pray with different people...
- Praying all at the same time (!?)

Discussion: Talk with the people in your HG about how you could freshen your times of prayer; settle on one new idea to try next term.