



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GUIDELINES AND ETIQUETTE

CONTENT

Our study of God's Word includes three important elements that together provide the richest experience possible:

1. **Personal study time** using the Bible and the weekly lessons.
2. **Teaching time** designed to build upon your personal study time.
3. **Discussion group and prayer** where you will meet with the same group all year to share answers, insights, and apply the Bible to your life. You will also pray with and for each other.

The Bible is our focus when we gather. It is not only God's gift to us so we can know him and his ways, it is our authority for all matters of faith and life. You need not consult commentaries or other resources or books for your personal study — just stick with the Bible!

SMALL GROUP GUIDELINES

- **Show respect** for the thoughts and experiences that others share in your group.
- **Participate but do not dominate.** Give everyone an opportunity to contribute. Our goal is for every group member to have a chance to share if they would like to.
- **Share carefully and tactfully.** Do not share details about anyone or anything that might be inappropriate. You can share general concerns or experiences without using names.
- **Keep focused** on the Word of God and your lesson. Try to avoid bringing up outside books, authors, or speakers — stick with the Bible!
- **Be considerate and be a good listener.** Ask yourself what God is saying to you through the person speaking.
- **Be prepared.** Make every effort to complete your lesson each week so that you can share your insights and the questions you still have. Please come even if you haven't finished your lesson — we all need each other to help us grow!
- **Use personal information appropriately.** We understand that some of you have your own businesses. We ask, however, that you not use this time or any class rosters for promotion or to distribute sales information related to your business.

PRAYER TIME

Supporting each other through prayer is an important part of small group time. We desire for all women to have their needs covered in prayer. Here are some tips for prayer:

- **Be concise.** When women share too many details, there is not time for all to share. Please keep your requests brief, only sharing necessary details.
- **Be discreet.** Intimate details of others' wrongs or their personal situations must not be shared. Do not share what another would desire to keep private.
- **Be personal.** Due to time constraints, requests are to be for you, your immediate family, or needs you may have in ministering to someone else.



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IN ALL THINGS...

- **Remember confidentiality!** Everything shared during your time together, whether in prayer or during the discussion time, must be kept within the group and honored as a treasure that has been shared.
- **Strive for unity and love!**
 - "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God." - 1 John 4:7
 - "Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble." - 1 Peter 3:8

PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- **Bad Weather:** Grace's website (grace.church) will post any weather closings. Your Bible Study Manager or Small Group Leader will also contact you if there is a cancellation.
- **Emergency Medical Situations:** Volunteers at the door 4 info desk should be alerted at 952-224-3000. They can contact 911. If you are unable to get the info to the volunteers, please contact 911 yourself.