

At Lightbearers, we want to connect students with Jesus, his people and his plan for the ends of the earth. We believe discipleship occurs best in the context of a community.

The house, therefore, is key because it can provide the context in which Biblical teaching and doctrine is put into practice. We see this in Ephesians where Paul talks about the magnitude of the Gospel, then says “Live a life worthy of the calling” (Ephesians 4:1), and proceeds to talk about issues such as hard work and the relationship between a husband and a wife. Accordingly, in light of the Gospel, house meetings should facilitate relationship with each other and encourage obedience to Christ.

The structure outlined below is for a house meeting that you could do with your group anywhere and anytime. This method is rooted in Scripture, community and obedience, and our hope and prayer is that by rooting ourselves in these good things, we open ourselves up to the work of the Holy Spirit individually and as a community.

Ideally, you’re gathered together at a time and a place where conversation can flow freely (think: in your apartment with some food), but consider what will work best for your group. Then, ask each person to share answers to these four questions:

- 1. What’s something good that happened in the last week?**
- 2. What’s something you’re anxious about for the upcoming week?**
  - a. Pray for the person on your right about #1 and #2**
- 3. What’s something you learned this week in the Bible? (Church sermon, Institute, personal time in the Word, etc.)**
- 4. How do you need to obey that? How can you put that into practice?**

Every succeeding week, you can do the same four questions and simply add one more to the beginning—**Did you put into practice what you learned last week?** This question is VITAL in helping us become not simply hearers of the Word, but doers. (James 1:22-25)

Tips for house leaders:

1. Pray for your students. Your ability to facilitate a meeting doesn't change lives. Jesus does. Ask him to do that (and to change you as well).
2. Respond to the needs of the people in your group—If there's a practical need you can help with, do that. When they share an anxiety, pray for them and ask them about it during the week. Don't wait for the next group meeting.
3. Draw out themes. Sometimes themes reveal what the Holy Spirit is doing.
  - a. In individuals—"You've said that issue is an anxiety causer several times over the past couple months. Have you talked to your mentor about that?"
  - b. In the group—"That's cool that we're all learning about investing in the lives of others. How could we do that as a group?"
4. Talk to your staffer (and mentor) about how it's going. We LOVE equipping you to lead and serve others. Please give us that chance!