

Calvary Chapel Pacific Hills Church  
Home Fellowships

*“What happens when a sermon-based home fellowship meets”*

**Refreshments**

- The host(s) can get things started with some light refreshments as people arrive.
- The purpose of this is to allow people to connect with some small talk and catch up from the previous week before sitting down and digging into the Scriptures.
- This will really help with people who are introverts, and the extroverts will love it.
- This is usually about ten to fifteen minutes in length.

**Sharing**

- This is a time to give updates on prayer requests and what took place in people’s lives that week.
- In new groups this time could start out shallow at first, but as the group jells this part of the meeting will move to a deeper level.
- The leader will want to make sure no one person dominates the conversation so others are not scared away.
- This is usually about twenty to thirty minutes in length.

**Study & Discussion**

- This part of the meeting is dedicated to the study and discussion of the previous weekend’s sermon.
- You will want to encourage your group to come with the answers to the study questions already filled out. This will dramatically improve the quality of the discussion.
- These questions will be provided and posted on the website for easy access during the week.
- The first question will be an open ended. It might ask, “What did you find most challenging, helpful, or troubling in the message?”
- Most of the time you will have more questions than you can get through during this time. There will be three different types of questions: Getting to Know Me, Into the Bible, and Application.
- The “Getting to Know Me” questions offer a non-threatening look into our past or current life situations. This allows for people to become familiar with each other.
- The “Into the Bible” questions take the group to biblical passages that are either complementary or parallel to the main text of the sermon but were not covered in the message. This is what keeps the sermon-based Home Fellowships from

feeling like a mindless regurgitation of what Pastor Dave said on Sunday.

- The “Application” questions are designed to take the main point or points of the sermon and drive them home. They typically will deal with attitudes or life-changing issues.
- This is usually about forty minutes in length.

### **Prayer**

- Each meeting will end in a time of prayer.
- You can split up the men and women for prayer.
- It’s important to use sentence prayers (One person praying for just one item at a time). This will shut down the long-winded dominator and enable those who are more introverted to pray out loud much more easily.
- This is usually about fifteen to twenty minutes in length.

### **Dessert & Socializing**

- This allows people who need to get home the ability to leave, and those who want to hang out to do so.

### **Service Projects & Socials**

- You will want to have socials as everyone’s schedule permits. This is a great time to gather and get to know each other.
- You will want to have at least one service project a year. This brings the group together for a common goal of service.