

One Month to Live Host Home FAQ

I'd like to be a Host, but should I wait until I have more experience?

If you have a willing heart, a DVD player, and a few open seats in your living room, you are ready to be a Host. The DVD and curriculum are "plug and play" so that anyone with any level of experience can Host a successful group.

Do I have to attend one of the Host Orientations? YES. There will be several available times and attending ONE of them is required. You will receive some very important training and you will be given additional information that will enable you to pick up material for your group.

On which day of the week does the showing take place? One of the great things about the **One Month to Live** study is that it fits with every person's schedule. Pick the day and time that works best for you. For example, if Thursday nights are easy, open nights in your life then you might want to Host your group on Thursday nights. A busy career couple might want to meet on Saturday mornings while a mom with kids in school might prefer a group that meets on a weekday morning. The typical time slot will be 1 ½ to 2 hours. It is really up to you. Just pick a night to start and let the group decide from there.

How many weeks am I committing to? Your commitment is to host the six-week study that accompanies Pastor Rick's message series. You will also be encouraged to rotate the facilitator role to a different member each meeting. This helps grow other members and gives you a break. Healthy groups rotate overtime but not overnight. At the end of the six sessions each host will decide whether to continue with the group or help the group to identify a new leader.

What is the time requirement each week? From start to finish, the average small group meeting lasts between 1 ½ to 2 hours. As the Host, you might commit a little extra time between meetings each week to review the book and the leader material as well as to pray for your group members.

How long is the DVD session each week? Though the group meeting will last between 1 ½ and 2 hours, the video itself will be approximately 10 to 15 minutes in length. The rest of the evening will be spent using the curriculum that accompanies Pastor Rick's message series.

How many people should I be expecting to accommodate? We suggest inviting between 15-30 people. Then, after the first night, let the group invite some of their own friends. In our experience, about half of those who say they will come will actually come. An ideal number of people to have in a small group is 8-10. This allows for great interaction. If your group gets much larger you can break into groups to share and pray after the Bible study.

Who will be in the group I will host? We want you to start by inviting your friends! They are the most natural place to start. You can even ask them if they know anyone who would like to come. There will also be some helpful training at the Host Orientation that will help you think of others to invite. In addition, we

may have the names of a few people who have signed up for the study and live nearby. And last, we will publish a list of available host homes so you may get a few emails or phone calls from people who see these.

How can I form a group with people who are similar to me? If you'd like to form a group with a certain affinity (like Couples, Singles, Women, Men, etc.), let us know by marking this on your commitment card. However, in most cases your geographic community will provide a "proximate" life stage or lifestyle affinity. Be sure to invite a few of your own friends that you enjoy hanging out with.

I am currently in a Life Group. Do I have to leave it if I am going to Host a new One Month to Live group? No. Although some members of existing Life Groups will choose to "take a 6 week vacation" from their group in order to Host a new one, others will simply meet on a different night and be part of two groups. Do what feels comfortable.

What do I do with the new group that has formed? As the Host, we are asking that you open your home to this new group for 6 short weeks. We ask that you show the DVD each week and help the group lead itself. We also hope that you will pray for this new group and each of the members individually. At the end of the six weeks we would hope that by rotating leadership weekly and challenging someone to step up and lead, 70 to 80% of the new groups will survive.

After the One Month to Live study is over, can I go back with my old group? Some people decide to go back to their old group and other people decide to stay with the new group that formed in their home with their friends and neighbors. You can do which ever you feel God is leading you to do. Do not feel pressured to stay but prepare to leave well.

Will I be asked to continue Hosting this group after the six-week series? We are SO grateful for your gift of 6 weeks. When your commitment is over, each Host will personally decide what their role will be with the group of friends that birthed in their home. It is our hope that some Hosts will choose to continue with their new group. If that's not your plan, we hope you will help the group raise up a new leader and find a new place to meet and that you will come alongside them and mentor them so that they have a better chance of being successful. We strongly encourage you to rotate homes and hosting facilitation as well.

I live out of the area. Should we still consider being a Host home? Yes! If you live out of the area we would still love to support you as a Host. Since it is unlikely that we will be able to provide you with a list of potential group members, we would encourage you to pray about which neighbors and friends you could invite to join you for 6 weeks.

How should we handle the childcare issue? Ultimately, each host will decide how they will address the issue of childcare. Most groups ask the members to find their own babysitters and attend the group by themselves with the children left at home with the sitter. Some groups put the children together in a "bonus" room at the Host home and all the members pitch in to pay a sitter or two to watch care for them. Other groups swap child-care with another group they know who meets on another night. And yet others create kind of a neighborhood co-op with the group.

There are many creative solutions and it is a great idea to address these up front with the people you are inviting. If you make it six weeks as a starter group without kids you will never go back to before.

I will be out of town during one of the weeks of the series. Any ideas?

Sure, on the night you will miss the group, simply plan on having others lead and facilitate the evening.

Do we need a large home to host? Absolutely not! Most groups will end up with 10 to 12 people. If your group grows larger than that we'll help you figure out how to make it work!

Will my name and number be posted for others to see? At the Host Orientation you will be completing an information sheet. On that sheet you will be asked whether you'd like your group to be listed on our web listing of groups. It is another helpful way for people to find your group. But, it's your call.