

Helpful Hints in Doing House Church

Below is a list of some ideas, hints, thoughts in somewhat of a random order that hopefully will help you become part of what God is doing today. He is prompting his church to begin meeting in houses and the marketplace in order to reach portions of the community that have been neglected as well as restore the basics of Christianity back to His Church.

This list is by no means exhaustive, but will merely give you some ideas.

1. Trust Jesus and the Holy Spirit to lead.
2. Do not merely transfer what is done in a typical Sunday service and bring it your living room or place of business, instead follow the pattern of public worship in 1 Corinthians 14:26.
3. Keep everything simple and reproducible. In other words what you do should be able to be done by any other believer in their home.
4. Start with a meal together.
5. Be spontaneous.
6. Seek and worship the Lord together in prayer and singing. No need for instruments unless the Lord provides a gifted musician who can follow along spontaneously.
7. Explore the Word of God together allowing the Holy Spirit to lead the discussion and apply it to our lives.
8. Limit "preaching or teaching sessions" to special occasions in order to allow everyone to dialogue together regarding what God is saying.
9. Submit one to another.
10. Prefer one another above yourself.
11. Let the children participate if at all possible.
12. Welcome the prophetic revelatory gifts.
13. Meet where it is most strategic to reach others.
14. Do not invite potential house church participants to become part of your house church, but help them start a house church in their home! You can assist them in whatever way you can. This will allow for spontaneous growth of the Lord's Church.

15. Resist being led by a personality or around an issue. Keep Jesus the focus.
16. Work towards 100% participation during the gathering. Everyone has a part to share.
17. If new teaching, practice or ideas are introduced, they must be clearly illustrated and substantiated in the Word of God. If it based on experience only, delay the teaching or discussion until someone has the opportunity to find scriptural precedent for it.
18. Be flexible, have picnics, outings and parties when you gather as the church.
19. Encourage everyone in your house church to meet with 1 or 2 (no more than 3 total) other believers on a regular basis to pray, be accountable to another and disciple one another.
20. Remember to view any structure that develops as scaffolding and not as the building. When you start, you may have to have some clear structure, but don't stay there. Be flexible! Each gathering is an adventure to see what the Lord is going to do.