**Table Host & Helper Notes—Session 11: What about the Church?**

Unbelievable! Today is Week 11 and the final session of the Alpha course. Words can’t express how grateful we are for your response in serving your brothers and sisters through these last eleven weeks of the Alpha course. Not only have your Guests been blessed to have you as Hosts and Helpers, but in turn, we are sure you have been blessed by the Guests at your tables. New friendships and relationships have been made. You may want to set a date for a group reunion or to suggest getting together for coffee or a meal in the months that follow.

What about the Church? Today the church, as an institution, gets a lot of negative press. Some see the church as an organization that abuses people or has some political agenda. This is certainly a different picture than what Jesus drew for His disciples when He described a church that would “prevail against the gates of hell and become hope for the world.” Our goal in this session is to help people rethink their understanding of the church as an organization, to begin to understand the value of Christian fellowship and to see how involvement could have a positive impact in their lives.

You and your Guests will be completing the Alpha Testimonies today during the first 10 minutes of your small group time. We will send out a follow-up survey to everyone. Please ask them to be as honest as they can be, as we hope you will as well. The purpose of the survey is to improve the experience of everyone on the Alpha course as we continue in the future. We know God has blessed our efforts, but there is always room for improvement.

**Reminders:**

* Discuss the prayer time from last week. What were people’s experiences?
* If there are Guests who were not here last week for healing prayer, ask if they would like to receive prayer and pray as a group.
* Please distribute the Alpha Testimony cards to your Guests and encourage them to complete them today and return to the Session Leader.
* Your Guests will be asked to fill out their testimonials during dinner or at the start of the table discussion.
* Please prayerfully consider and talk with your Guests about becoming a Host or Helper on the next course.

Session 11: What About the Church?

Step by Step

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| 6:00 pm | Team Meeting & Prayer then go to your tables to be ready to greet your Guests. |
| 6:30 pm | **Session Leader** will welcome and announce time for the meal and lead us in prayer.  During the meal:  Encourage discussion about the Healing Prayer from last session. If there is anyone who  was not there last week have another Guest try to explain the experience.  If there is anyone who was not there for healing prayer last week who would like to be  prayed over, work that into your small group time.  **Helper or Kitchen Crew** should clear the table and refill drinks if necessary. |
| 7:00 pm | **Session Leader** will give an introduction & joke followed by Music & Song. |
| 7:15 pm | DVD Presentation, **“What About the Church?”** |
| 7:45 pm | Short break then groups will get back to their discussion tables.  **Helpers or Kitchen Crew**- get water & coffee for your group and serve dessert. Table Host can bring desert for final session. |
| 8:00 pm | **Small Group Discussion:**  1. Ask everyone to complete their Alpha Testimonies.  2. Go around the group asking each person to summarize their Alpha experience.  3. One of the images from today’s DVD is that the Church is God’s Family. What do you think your role or contribution could be to the family?  End your time together with Intercessory prayer. |
| 8:25 pm | **Final Song and Dismissal.**  One last song together to give thanks and praise to God for His many good gifts. |
| 8:30 pm | Team meeting for quick wrap-up and prayer. |
| Notes: | Encourage your Guests:  to make plans to get together again  to join a follow-up program  to help with the next Alpha course  to invite friends and family to participate in the next Alpha course. |