

PLANNING WORKSHEET FOR STARTING A "FIGHT LONELINESS" BOOK CLUB IN MY HOME



1. Who would I like to be my:

Co-host:

Discussion leader:

Time keeper:

Dessertier / Food Coordinator:

Guest Coordinator/ Greeter:

Note: you can do all these jobs yourself at the beginning. But you will have more fun and feel less burdened if you can recruit a few friends to help you.

2. What topic would I like to begin with?

Right now, the available topics are:

- a. 101 Tips for Marrying the Right Person
- b. 101 Tips for a Happier Marriage
- c. How Jesus can Heal the Divorce Culture
- d. What You Need to Know about Gender Identity Politics:
Bathroom Bullies to Pronoun Police.

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3. Who would I like to invite to participate in my book club?

Brainstorm: What are some places where you tend to socialize? It might help you think of friends you'd like to invite.

Neighbors?

Relatives?

Church groups?

A political group?

Work or school?

Your daughter's friends and their moms?

Choosing a Theme can sometimes help more successfully reach an audience that desperately needs "Ruth Truth." Political groups often find easy success, but we've also heard of successful couples clubs, Saturday morning breakfast bunch, restaurant readers, mother/daughter clubs, girls night, fatherhood clubs masquerading as "Donuts with Dads," homeschool clubs, and Grandma's day camp with the grandkids.

Quick Tips:

We've found that inviting like-minded friends allows our guests to feel safe enough to open up. Attempting to persuade people of conflicting views tends to create a hostile setting that may cause your guests to feel uncomfortable.

Also, inviting participants from a similar source, like friends from church or perhaps friends from work, can allow members in the group to have a more free-flowing sociality because they are already acquainted with each other.

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4. When would I like to start meeting?

5. How often would we meet?

Monthly? Bi-monthly? Weekly? Other?

6. How many people do I anticipate inviting?

7. Is there a predictable pattern to when we would meet, like every second Tuesday?

8. What time of day will we meet?

9. Where should I plan to meet? Is there a friend who would share the hosting? Would we prefer to meet in a home or a public building like a library or a church that I participate in?

Brainstorm: Are there any holidays that you need to anticipate working around?

Or political events that you need to prepare for?

Our book club specialist says, "I have found better luck in starting while I'm feeling passionate about something; it's easier to talk to others about it, somehow. But Miss Manners still wants people to have 10-14 days' notice."

Quick Tip: Our book club specialist says, "In my experience, only half the people I invited were able to match their schedule to mine, so I invite double or triple my sitting space."

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10. Circle the topics you'd like to cover in your group in the future:

What is Family Justice?
Love & Friendship in Marriage
Understanding Same-Sex Attraction
Religious Freedom
Communication in Marriage
Risks of Cohabitation
Divorce

Same-Sex Parenting ("No-Difference" Claim)
Pornography
Third Party Reproduction
Defining Marriage
Transgender Issues
Sex Education in School
Fatherhood

11. My personal goal after this training is:

Notes from the training: