

## Welcome to our Social Meeting!

We are here for at least four reasons:

First, ***to know Jesus better and become more like Him.***

We do this through sharing our current experience with Him and hearing others share theirs.

Second, ***to know each other better and taste genuine Christian community.***

We do this through mutual sharing, support, prayer, and praise.

Third, ***to learn to talk about Jesus.***

Sometimes, our shyness and fears make it hard to talk about Jesus with others. By practicing here, we'll become better at sharing Him with others during the rest of the week.

Fourth, ***to be a safe place to learn about Jesus.***

This is a place where all who want to know more about Jesus may come, listen, ask questions, and participate in our discussions to learn about Him.

We're glad that you're here! And, to make the best use of our time, we ask that each of us remember some simple guidelines throughout our meeting:

1. If you're a guest with us today, please ask questions and join our discussions! But we also respect your right to silence, and after introducing yourself, you don't have to say another word if you don't want to.
2. If you're already a Christian, share honestly from your heart where you're at with Jesus. Let's celebrate together what God is doing for you! And please, share your challenges, too. We're all growing, and are not here to try to impress others.
3. Share briefly. Long speeches are death to our meetings, and each of us needs time to share.
4. Confess no one's sins but your own—and even some of those you may want to save for more private conversations, either with someone you trust or just God Himself. Use discretion.
5. Remember, if you're a member of our church, it is your personal responsibility to prepare for and learn from our meetings. What you put into them is what you'll get out of them. We recommend planning during the week what you will share in the next meeting, and to listen carefully and compassionately to others when they share—God may be wanting to directly speak to you through their testimony.

Most of all, let's remember that we are here to learn about and from Jesus Christ. May our words be understandable to each person present; may we deepen our friendships with one another; and may we leave this place firmly convinced that Jesus is alive and available to each of us, even now.