

group guide

**What do we have to do to
be accepted by God?**

more info: haventtogether.com

1. gather

Hi [name],
I'm having a catch-up [on day]
where I'm inviting a few people to
[home, cafe, local park, zoom etc] to
have a chat about [topic].

I thought to invite you. I'd be
interested in hearing your views and
would enjoy your company.

[Create a more personalised script
for repeat invitations]

2. relax

Create a relaxed environment as people arrive. You might provide food or drink.

Ask how their day has been.

Find a comfortable space to sit. Let people know who is coming and introduce those who may not know each other.

3. Transition

Explain the purpose of gathering as outlined in original invitation.

I wanted to create an opportunity to discuss something that I'm interested in so thanks for coming. I hope it will be enjoyable for everyone.

The topic for discussion is:
What makes us acceptable to God

Is that something you've ever thought about?

4. Discussion

Ask one or more of these questions if required to keep the discussion going, but aim to pick up on and ask about. Try to share as little as possible at this stage. Ask questions and then listen.

Would you describe yourself as a good person? How do you define a good person?

Have you ever thought about what God thinks of you?

5. Testimony

At an appropriate moment, you may share a brief personal experience about **why you feel God has accepted you.**

Be honest, avoid Christian-sounding language and admit any doubts you may have.

If it doesn't feel like the right time you can skip this step.

6. Bible

I'd like to read you something. It's from Romans chapter 3.

20 For no one can ever be made right with God **by doing what the law commands**. The law simply shows us how sinful we are.

21 But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago.

22 We are made right with God by **placing our faith in Jesus Christ**. And this is true for everyone who believes, **no matter who we are**.

23 For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard.

24 Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.

7. Application

What does this say about what makes us acceptable to God?

Have you ever experienced the truth of rules making aware of your inability to keep them?

What difference does it make that being right with God is not something we can earn?

8. Prayer

Is there anything you think we could pray about?

Thank you God that we could have this discussion today. I pray for [any requests]. Help us to know you more. Amen.

9. End well

Thanks, I enjoyed that.

Hope it was okay?

*I was thinking of doing this again if
you'd be interested?*