

group guide

How we can relate to 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:
How we can relate 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.

How would you summarise your understanding of religion?

What are your thoughts about the ten commandments?

What do you think when people say they have a relationship with God?

5. Testimony

At an appropriate moment, you may share a brief personal experience about **how you relate to God.**

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
Jeremiah chapter 31 (31-34)*

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The day is coming,” says the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah. This covenant will not be like the one I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt.

They broke that covenant, though I loved them as a husband loves his wife,” says the Lord.

“But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel after those days,” says the Lord. “I will put my instructions deep within them, and I will write them on their hearts.

I will be their God, and they will be my people. And they will not need to teach their neighbours, nor will they need to teach their relatives, saying, ‘You should know the Lord.’

For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will know me already,” says the Lord. “And I will forgive their wickedness, and I will never again remember their sins.”

7. Application

*What section stands out to you?
Why?*

*What is a covenant? How is it
similar/different to a contract?*

*The old covenant was written on
stone tablets– rules to follow. How
is the new way of relating to God
different?*

*How does this scripture present a
view that is similar/different to your
understanding of how people can
relate to God?*

*What is Jesus's role in the new way
of relating to God?*

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?*