

group guide

Just an ordinary person?

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:
The value of ordinary people

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 an ordinary person? Why/why not?

When something good happens in your life, who do you want to talk to about it most?

Is there anything in your life that you've learnt to just accept?

5. Testimony

At an appropriate moment, you may share a brief personal experience about **how you feel God has a purpose for you as just an ordinary person.**

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 Luke chapter 1 (26-38)

—

“In the sixth month of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, to a virgin named Mary.

She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. Gabriel appeared to her and said, “Greetings, favoured woman! The Lord is with you!”

Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. “Don’t be afraid, Mary,” the angel told her, “for you have found favour with God!

You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!”

Mary asked the angel, “But how can this happen? I am a virgin.” The angel replied, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.

So the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God. What’s more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she has conceived a son and is now in her sixth month. For the word of God will never fail.”

Mary responded, “I am the Lord’s servant. May everything you have said about me come true.” And then the angel left her.”

7. Application

Why would the angel's visit have caused Mary to be so confused and disturbed?

Mary seems shocked that God would choose her and call her favoured.

Why do you think so?

What does it say about God and His purposes that Mary's relative Elizabeth was chosen to have John the Baptist, rather than someone unknown to Mary?

This is something amazing God was going to do. Mary just had to receive it in faith.

What do you think God wants to do through you?

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?*