

Steps to Setting Up A Small Group

Now that you've decided to participate in the free Bible Gateway Online Bible Study (OBS), think about inviting your family and friends to join you. When they do, you'll be able to have your own small group discussion around the lessons each week and have fun learning together. Here are a few ideas to help you get the most out of your small group.

Contact your church small group coordinator to see if he or she is already organizing a small group for this OBS. If so, you could simply join it. If not, let the person know you'll set it up and ask that he or she invite church members to join in.

Think of yourself as the host to welcome and help everyone feel comfortable, instead of the "leader" who has all the answers. You're all learning together.

Inform all group members of the availability of the OBS study guide, DVD, and book in case they'd like to purchase any to enhance their experience of the free OBS. While buying these materials isn't a requirement, having them will contribute to the most rewarding OBS experience possible.

Set up a virtual location online for the group to meet together through a platform such as a Facebook Group, Zoom, Google Hangouts, Microsoft Teams, etc.

Schedule a specific day and time when everyone can meet online.

Encourage everyone to watch the OBS video for that week and complete their study guide before they come to the group to discuss it.

Start the time with prayer. Keep the discussion fun and lively. Go through each question of the study guide and encourage everyone to share their thoughts. At the conclusion, remind everyone to watch next week's lesson online and complete the study guide for it before the meeting. End in prayer.

Have fun while learning!

How to create a Facebook Group

A Facebook group is an exclusive outlet for clusters of people to share, communicate, and interact on Facebook. This is a great tool for small groups to go through Online Bible Studies together. It's a convenient way to go through discussion questions, share prayer requests, and encourage one another.

1. Click **Create** in the top blue bar on your Facebook homepage. Then click **Group**.
2. Type in your group name, invite your Facebook friends, then select a privacy option.
3. Then, click **Create**.
4. Once you create your group, you can personalize it by adding a cover photo and adding a description of the Online Bible Study.
5. You will be able to add group discussion questions, screenshots, and pray requests.
6. People in your group will be able to comment on any posts, to create a conversation thread.