

STARTING A BOOK CLUB

FIND PEOPLE

A book club needs people- who do you want to share this with? Maybe you're a young mom wanting to build fellowship with other young moms, or something else. Find a friend that is also interested in starting a group so that you don't have to do it alone. Will you advertise by word of mouth or in the bulletin? Will it be open to anyone or women of a specific age or state in life? Church groups should not exclude others but there is space to have a group for women who are in similar stages of life.

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DECIDE WHEN AND WHERE TO MEET

If you don't know the women in your group, it may be good to start in a neutral location like your parish or a coffee shop. If you are starting a group with friends, you may be comfortable hosting it in your house or trading off who hosts.

DECIDE WHAT TO READ

Do you want to read the Bible, books about the spiritual life, or both? Do you want to work from a guide or read and let the Spirit guide your discussion? If you and the group members are new to a book club, a pre-written bible study or book with discussion questions may help you get started.

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GET TO KNOW YOUR GROUP

Don't be afraid to spend time chatting at the start of every meeting. It may take a couple of weeks, but the group will naturally get to know each other. To help build relationships, try to get coffee or do something one-on-one with the other members of the group.

CHECK IN WITH YOUR GROUP

Once you've met a couple times, check in as a group to see how things are going. Are things going well? Are there things people want to do or different ways they'd like to be fed? It's good to check in every couple of months as a group even when you've been meeting for a long time.

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