

References for Colossians and James

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Women's Ministries Small Group Guidelines

1. We would like each person to have an opportunity to share or ask questions.
2. We are all at different places in our faith. Therefore, everyone is given the right to their own opinion, and questions are encouraged and respected.
3. If anything of a personal nature is shared during small group time, please keep this confidential outside of the group.
4. Sharing your own weaknesses and struggles can be as helpful as offering solutions. Sometimes suggestions and advice when unsolicited can come across as "having it all figured out".
5. Please try to share your experiences, questions, and ideas without referring to any particular Christian denomination or church either in a negative or positive way. Experiences influenced by church backgrounds are sometimes a huge influence in one's life but they can be easily and effectively shared without specifically naming the denomination. Simply using the words "tradition" or "denomination" helps to avoid stereotyping groups of people.

Examples:

"My experience has been..."

"When I attended our family's church..."

"In the denomination in which I was raised..."

6. Whenever possible, please refrain from using your phone for texting during the small group time.
7. "Side conversations" while others are sharing can often be distracting.
8. We are each on a journey with our opinions and convictions, especially regarding outside issues (politics, for example). We encourage the discussion to stay on topics related to our Bible study and refrain from those types of outside conversations during small group time.