

Arise Women's Ministry

## **Group Meeting Guidelines for Bible Study**

1. To get the most out of our Bible study, coming prepared with the homework completed will be beneficial. We understand that life happens, and we get busy. Please come even if you haven't completed the homework. No one will check your work and there's still benefit in being in community with others.
2. Answering discussion questions aloud is voluntary. You can just listen if you choose to. Praying aloud is also voluntary.
3. If you do choose to speak, please be concise so that others also have a chance to share and so that we can cover all topics for the evening. There may be times of silence between responses to allow others time to reflect and contribute to the discussion.
4. There are no stupid questions. We all come with varied levels of Bible experience, so please feel free to ask about anything that you don't understand throughout the study.
5. Everything shared in our meetings is confidential. We want this to be a place where we can be honest about our struggles without worry of personal things being repeated elsewhere.
6. This is not a counseling session, so we refrain from "giving advice" and instead seek to determine what God's Word says about the issues we face. We trust the Holy Spirit as He leads us in our lives and into Truth from His Word. We do not need to fix others or save them.
7. We are a non-denominational ministry, not affiliated with a church. We focus on our unity in Christ and welcome women from all different backgrounds. We respectfully can discuss our differences, but we will always go back to God's Word for the ultimate authority on Truth. You can also view our Statement of Faith on our website.
8. God designed us for relationships. Life is better with sisters who truly care about you, so look for opportunities to build friendships. Listen to one another. Encourage one another. "Be kind and compassionate to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ Jesus has forgiven you." -Ephesians 4:32