

SAMPLE FELLOWSHIP MEETING FORMAT

Gathering - Conversation, coffee, donuts, etc

7:30 Continue fellowship started prior to meeting during gathering.

7:45 Song – *Here I Am Lord* and/or other selections from *Gather*, *Music Issue* or other source

7:55 Begin prayer and move into group shared extemporaneous prayer – ACTS - Adoration, Contrition, Thanksgiving, Supplication; Short scripture verse can be included

8:10 Scripture and Catechism for sharing (sample):

- 1) Luke 19:1-10 (Zacchaeus, the rich tax collector)
 - 2) Luke 23:39-43 (the good thief)
 - 3) John 18: 15-18 & 25-27 and John 21: 15-19 (Betrayal by Peter)
- Catechism 1262

8:20 Sharing:

A) What similarities do you find in these stories?

B) Do these stories remind you of any events from your life from which you benefited?

Please share your stories and any lessons you have learned.

C) Through baptism, you renounced evil and gained salvation. How are you living your baptismal promise in your adult life?

8:55 Announcements, business

8:57 Closing prayer – Our Father, Hail Mary

9:00 (firm time) END

All times are approximate except the START and STOP time. Chairs should be arranged in a circle with a chair in the center for Jesus.

- Create a **“safe place”**
- Everything said in the group stays in the group and is held in **strict confidence** – a safe place
- Have designated facilitators, planned in core group. Spread over as many men as possible
- All members and their sharing are of equal value, no gurus. The teaching is the sharing; the sharing is the teaching.
- Discussion of public figures and issues should be discouraged. Not a debating session.
- Discussion of church figures and issues should be discouraged
- Personal counseling during the meeting should be avoided. A similar personal experience can be shared. Additional help and support can be provided outside the meeting.
- Do not try to provide counseling when professional counseling is needed.
- Sensitive and difficult disclosures and sharing can be followed taking time out to pray.
- Recognize and follow traditions as they develop
- Be sensitive to the movements of the Spirit and flexible to follow the movement of the Spirit.
- Start and stop on time