



Tips on how to invite someone to Alpha

Hey everyone!

The first time we hosted Alpha, we encouraged everyone at Hope to invite people. Later, someone asked me, "So what exactly do you say about Alpha to invite them?" After stumbling around, I said something that was only semi-coherent!

Afterwards, I thought to myself that it would have been helpful if someone gave me some guidelines on what to say. So hopefully, this sheet will help equip you to be more prepared!

☛ What do I do first?

First, pray & fast. Ask Jesus to go before you & create a hunger in people's hearts for Him. Ask God how He would want you to invite your friend. Remember, it is not up to you to convince a person of their need for God, nor to persuade them to come to Alpha.

☛ What do I say?

We want to love people in to the Kingdom. So whatever you say, be genuine and be yourself. Do prepare and even practice what you are going to say. But in the end, trust God to speak through you as you invite the people He has laid on your heart.

We encourage you to use the invitation & invite them in person. There are many ways to introduce people to Alpha. Here's just a suggestion. You can just say something like:

"Joe, I want to invite you to something that I think you'd really enjoy. Our church is sponsoring a course for people who are open to exploring the Christian faith. It's called the Alpha course. Have you ever heard of it?"

Alpha is great for people who might have questions about the issue of faith and for those who want to take some further steps in their spiritual journey. We get together for breakfast, watch a short DVD, then have an opportunity to discuss it afterwards. It's very low-key and non-threatening.

"We're introducing the Alpha course with an introductory breakfast on Sunday morning, January 14th. We're encouraging people to come and just check it out to see if they would be interested in it. I just wanted to see if you would be open to joining us for the intro breakfast?"

***Note: If you have already talked about spiritual things or have prayed about something with them, you may want to use that as a connection point to begin the conversation. People are looking for honest answers to real life issues. If God has laid them on your heart, don't be afraid to mention that to them. For instance-

"Joe, I know you mentioned that things have been really challenging at work. I've continued to pray for you at different times. I don't know where you are on your own spiritual journey, but there's something our church is sponsoring and God keeps bringing you to my mind. So, I want to invite you to..."

☛ What about questions?

Most people will respond with questions. What's the course about? How does it work? Many of those things are addressed in the invitation. Just answer their questions, but remind them that by coming to the introductory breakfast, they are not making a long-term commitment- they can just check it out. Remind them that they will never be put on the spot and that we have Sunday classes for their children.

Obviously, adapt this into your own language and to the people whom you are inviting. Bottom-line- Ask God to move in their hearts. Remember- Let God do the heavy work. You're just the tool! It's up to him to draw people to Himself! (1 Corinthians 2:1-5)

Last thought- If they say they cannot come, you may want to ask them: ***"Just so I don't keep bothering you in the future, would you mind if I keep you informed of things like this that I think you might enjoy?"***