



In The Napavine Baptist Church, our long term goal is to build our church body throughout all aspects of our gatherings, and to allow opportunities for the love of Christ to be outwardly expressed toward our brethren.

The Sunday morning service is a time for construction- to build upon that foundation that is already laid (1 Cor. 3:9-11).

The noon shared meal is a time for fellowship amongst the church body (Acts 2:38-42).

Home Fellowship is the idea of the love of Christ shown forth from one's home toward others- Christian hospitality in a more personal, direct manner (Proverbs 18:24). It is a time to provide an atmosphere for closer friendships to be built.

More specifically, Home Fellowship is a gathering of believers in one's home or other meeting place, where edification of each other is priority. This could be achieved in various ways, and should consist of the following:

- a shared meal
- a time for prayer
- discussion, with discretion
- and fun.

As a host, be sure to keep the fellowshiping centered around Christ. Pray in preparation for the evening to come. Consider the following ideas:

- Ministering to others with needs, such as someone in a nursing home or an elderly couple, can be done if planned ahead. You could host a Home Fellowship where they are; bring everyone to them. These may need to be smaller gatherings, shorter or even more simple, but can still be a blessing to all.
- Sunday evening between 5-9 p.m. is a reasonable time. Start earlier or end later if need be. (Some guests may need to come later or leave earlier than others.)
- A shared meal is to be provided by all attending who are able. Details are to be worked out by you and your guests.
- Make time for prayer.
- Discussion could be over the morning services topics.
- Activities could include: music/singing, Scripture memorization or quotation, viewing Godly videos, group games.

- Plan ahead for small children: coloring pages, puzzles, etc., or ask parents to bring something for their children to do if needed.
- Keep the weather in mind.
- Consider the ages of those coming, any special needs, etc.
- Practice The Fruits of the Spirit.
- Keep the time open for the Holy Spirit's leading.
- Lastly, keep it simple.

As a guest, you are just as accountable to God as your host. Be sure to keep the fellowship centered around Christ. Be prepared to share something the Lord has taught you or blessings the Lord has given you over the last week. Your hosts are opening their homes to you, so please consider them as you help clean up after the fellowshiping. If you are able, please also consider bringing a dish to share with others, and any other needed items such as extra folding chairs or games, paper plates, etc., to help lighten the load of your hosting family.

*"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering;
(for he is faithful that promised;) And let us consider one another
to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling
of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another:
and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."
Hebrews 10:23-25*