

MAKING YOUR MARRIAGE DEPLOYMENT READY
HomeBuilders Spiritual Care Group
HOMEBUILDERS ORIENTATION – (HBO) STRATEGY

Developing a HomeBuilders Orientation (HBO) strategy to start and multiply spiritual care groups will pay you great returns for your effort. An HBO is a minimal effort program that can have a maximum impact. It should be simple, to the point and transferable to others. The format can be flexible from 1.5 to 2.5 hours and used in a variety of settings such as lunches, potlucks, ice cream socials or dessert themes. They can be done in a church setting under the authority of a pastor or adapted to a neighborhood or community setting.

It is important to include the pastor and be under his authority whenever an HBO is conducted for a church. The pastor should be encouraged to participate in planning and conducting the HBO. An initial planning meeting 4-6 weeks in advance is usually sufficient to prepare for and publicize the HBO. A member of the church can do this using the tips, samples and advice you give them.

The purpose of the HBO is to give couples enough information to decide whether HomeBuilders spiritual care group is something for them to join or lead. It has always been profitable to schedule a leader training following the HBO and invite interested couples to attend. Be sure to announce this during the HBO.

A main feature of HBO is the sample group experience of approximately twenty-thirty minutes. Do not skimp on or eliminate the sample group experience from the HBO. Inviting experienced leader couples to lead the sample groups can enhance this. Using any HomeBuilders lesson with a few selected questions from each section is easy and effectively demonstrates to couples what a HomeBuilders spiritual care group will be like. A side benefit of inviting other leaders to help is they often catch a vision to have an HBO in their church!

Having the couples complete one HBO response card per couple while seated in the sample group and collected by the sample group leader prior to calling everyone back into general session will insure an accurate record of response to the HBO.

Keeping the HBO light, fun and informative with a few appropriate gifts to the participants is a winsome way to keep couples engaged and willing to participate in the sample groups.

HBO serves many purposes:

- It encourages couples to develop a ministry within their own church.
- It gives couples enough information to decide whether HomeBuilders spiritual care group is something for them to join or facilitate.
- It encourages, enlists, and trains couples to take leadership.
- By example it encourages others to try HBO at their own church.
- It is time and format flexible.
- It establishes the pastor's authority, control and cooperation.
- It is a readily transferable tool.

The main elements of HBO:

- Planned and scheduled in advance with follow up training under the authority of the pastor.
- Themed event- Ice Cream Social, Dessert, Lunch, Potluck Etc.
- Involves members of the church organizing and promoting the HBO.
- Elevates training, participation and motivation for experienced HB leaders.
- It is a fun time for participants.
- The pastor involvement encourages attendees.
- HB lesson and group meeting format are explained.
- Testimonies are shared.
- Positive experience of HB spiritual care group.
- Information cards completed in small group. High accountability.
- Opportunity for questions in small group.
- Information cards are given to the HBO organizers.
- Gifts 2-4

(Example of Luncheon Program)

HOMEBUILDERS ORIENTATION - HBO
CHURCH NAME
STREET ADDRESS
CITY, ST
TELEPHONE NUMBER

DATE (TIME)

1) Welcome and Opening Prayer – Pastor	2 Minutes
2) Lunch	30
3) Share God’s Heart for Marriages (Pastor)	10
4) Introduce HomeBuilders Leaders	4
6) Introduce HomeBuilders	10
7) Testimony (<i>Couple(s) impacted by the HomeBuilders Program</i>) **	10
8) Break into Groups	20
9) Fill out Information Card, give to group leader	2
10) Question/Answer Period (HomeBuilders Director)	10
11) Award gifts	5
12) Closing Comments and Prayer – Pastor	2

TOTAL: 105 Minutes

Additional Notes:

- Leader-couples will meet one hour prior to start of program to prepare for groups
- HomeBuilders Director will set up information and resource table
- Welcome table (couples will receive a name tag; check off names on initial sign-up sheet as they arrive)
- *Viva La Difference video from Focus On The Family
- **Or use HomeBuilders video in lieu of testimonies and eliminate Viva La Difference

SETUP OF MEETING ROOM

Tables needed for: 1) HomeBuilders material; 2) welcome table; 3) food/drinks
Need: Name tags + pens, TV/VCR, podium

Childcare needed after lunch – “couples only” for HomeBuilders Orientation presentation

(Example of Evening Program)

HOMEBUILDERS ORIENTATION - HBO
CHURCH NAME
STREET ADDRESS
CITY, ST
TELEPHONE NUMBER

DATE (TIME)

1) “Ice-breaker Activity” + “Snacks/Dessert”	20 Minutes
2) Welcome and Opening Prayer (Pastor)	2
3) Share God’s Heart for Marriages (Pastor)	10
4) Introduce HomeBuilders Leaders	2
6) Introduce HomeBuilders Program	10
7) Testimony (<i>Couple(s) impacted by the HomeBuilders Program</i>)	10
8) Break into Groups	20
9) Fill out Information Card in groups, give to facilitator	2
10) Question/Answer Period	10
11) Award gifts	5
12) Closing Comments and Prayer – Pastor	2

TOTAL: 93 Minutes

Additional Notes:

- Leader-couples will meet one hour prior to start of program to prepare for groups
- HomeBuilders HBO Leader will set up information and resource table
- Welcome table (couples will receive a name tag, ice-breaker instructions & directed to snack/dessert table)

SETUP OF MEETING ROOM

Tables needed for: 1) HomeBuilders material; 2) welcome table; 3) food/drinks
Need: Name tags + pens, TV/VCR, podium

Childcare Facilities – “couples only” for HomeBuilders Orientation presentation

"TIPS FOR PLANNING A HBO EVENT"

- Meet with Pastor – decide on date, time (need approximately 3 hours including one hour of set up time), location & event type (lunch, nighttime, potluck, ice cream social or dessert)
- Set Leader Training date, time (2.5 – 3 hours) and place to follow HBO
- Recruit other couples to help coordinate the event
- Start advertising 4 to 6 weeks prior to the HBO
 - Church Bulletin
 - Posters
 - Flyers
 - Pulpit announcement by Pastor
- Setup sign-up table + display 3 to 4 weeks prior to the HBO
 - Sign-up sheet
 - Flyers
 - HomeBuilders brochures
 - Make personal invitations and phone calls
- HBO Event Day – Resources Needed
 - Welcome table
 - Name tags + marker
 - Table for HomeBuilders resource material
 - Tables/chairs setup
 - Arrangements for food setup/cleanup
 - Childcare

Making Your Marriage Deployment Ready

HomeBuilders Spiritual Care Group

There's no better way to build Military Marriages

Names _____ Telephone (____) _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
Chapel/Church _____ E-Mail _____
UNIT _____

Day of the week and time we can attend a HomeBuilders group:

1st Choice _____ Time: _____ 2nd Choice _____ Time: _____

_____ We want to lead or host a HomeBuilders Group.

_____ We want to join a HomeBuilders Group.

Comments/Concerns: _____

Making Your Marriage Deployment Ready

HomeBuilders Spiritual Care Group

There's no better way to build Military Marriages

Names _____ Telephone (____) _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
Chapel/Church _____ E-Mail _____
UNIT _____

Day of the week and time we can attend a HomeBuilders group:

1st Choice _____ Time: _____ 2nd Choice _____ Time: _____

_____ We want to lead or host a HomeBuilders Group.

_____ We want to join a HomeBuilders Group.

Comments/Concerns: _____
