



ALPHA ONLINE 2020



**HOSTS &
HELPERS
GUIDE**

**What about
the church?**

WHAT ABOUT THE CHURCH?

Icebreakers (before video)

HOW HAVE YOU ENJOYED ALPHA SO FAR? ANY HIGHLIGHTS?

- What has stood out to you most about your experience on Alpha so far?
- Did anything surprise you about your experience on Alpha?

See more icebreaker or online games ideas at the end of this guide.

Discussion Questions (after video)

- It is often good to start with: “Did anything from the episode stand out to you?”

1 WHAT COMES TO MIND WHEN YOU HEAR THE WORDS ‘CHURCH’ OR ‘CHRISTIAN’?

- Think back to the start of Alpha. Has your view changed?

2 WHAT HAS YOUR EXPERIENCE BEEN WITH THE CHURCH?

- When you think about the Church, what questions come to mind?
- What are some misunderstandings that people have about the Church?
- What do you think about the idea that “church is a people, not a building”?

3 IF THIS POOL (ON THE 2ND LAST PAGE) REPRESENTS A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, WHICH CHARACTER DO YOU IDENTIFY WITH THE MOST?

- Has your answer to this question changed from the beginning of your time on Alpha?
- Is there a missing character? What other person might you add to describe where you are at?
- What do you think it would look like for you to take a step into the pool? Is anything holding you back?

4 WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO NOW THAT ALPHA HAS FINISHED?

- How would you summarize your experience?
- Is there anyone in your life that you would want to invite to Alpha in the future?
- Looking forward, in what way (if any) can you continue the conversation and the journey you’ve started on Alpha?

Additional questions (if needed):

5 IN THIS SESSION, 5 PICTURES REPRESENTED THE CHURCH: FRIENDS, FAMILY, HOME, BODY OF JESUS, AND LOVE.

- Do any of those images stand out to you?
- Is there an idea or image that raised some questions for you?

6 THE CHURCH IS SO DIVERSE IN ITS EXPRESSION. HOW CAN SUCH A GLOBAL AND DIVERSE CHURCH BE UNITED?

Think about setting a date to meet up for a small group reunion in the near future.

End with a prayer and do something fun together to mark the end of Alpha.

Episode Summary

BIG IDEA

The Church is the family of God. It's people, not a building. It's a movement of hope, love and justice. We are all invited to live out our faith in community with other believers. God works through the Church to extend love to the whole world.

KEY QUOTES & SCRIPTURES

What unites us is infinitely greater than what divides us.

NICKY GUMBEL

Let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another...

HEBREWS 10:25 NLT

For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.

MATTHEW 18:20

When the Church is operating as Jesus intended, it's a force for profound hope and healing in the world.

We are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

EPHESIANS 2:22

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:27

Jesus prayed 'that we may be one' – united – 'so that the world will believe.'

JOHN 17:21

Alpha, it's just the beginning. Your journey has just begun. Following Jesus is life's great adventure!

Tips & Guidelines for Hosting Discussion

GUIDELINES FOR THE GROUP

- You don't have to talk if you don't want to
- You can ask or say just about anything
(as long as you aren't putting other people down or making it so others can't talk)
- Respect each other by listening and welcoming different opinions
- Keep things confidential when you leave the group

TIPS FOR HOSTS & HELPERS

- Remember names
- Pray
- Be committed
- Show up early to welcome guests
- Stay long enough to chat with guests afterwards
- Keep the conversation alive and balanced
- Be encouraging
- End on time
- If time allows, debrief with your Alpha team to celebrate wins, chat about challenges and share prayer requests

Icebreakers

Laughter is food for the soul! Here are some fun icebreakers you can use each week:



- Do you squeeze the toothpaste tube or roll it? What's the advantage of your method?
- When was the last time you square-danced or line-danced? Rate your dancing ability on a scale of 1 to 10.
- What's one fashion trend you hope never comes back? Which ones have come back that you wish hadn't?
- What magic tricks do you know? Perform one now.
- Do you have a collection? If so, what do you collect and why?

- Are you more inclined to "build your own empire" or "unleash the potential of others"? Explain.
- What's your preference: plane, train, boat, automobile, horse, or camel?
- What was your favorite recess activity: dodgeball, kickball, foursquare, hopscotch, freeze tag or jump rope?
- What's your pick: hang glide, sky dive, bungee jump, hot air balloon, or kite?
- What is one of your favorite souvenirs brought back from your travels? Where do you keep it?

- What is your favorite bumper sticker or t-shirt slogan?
- As a child, did you ever peek into a wrapped gift before you actually received it? Did you ever get caught? Explain the details.
- What room in your house best reflects your personality? Why?
- Who's the most famous person you've ever met? What famous person would you most like to meet?
- What's your favorite kind of candy?

- What's the wackiest belief you held as a child?
- Which movies have you watched over and over again?
- What do you admire most about your best friend?
- What items do you currently have stored in the trunk of your car?
- Are you an early bird or a night owl? Why?