

05

BREAKOUT SESSION

Hosting & Creating a Welcoming Environment

Breakout field guide • Joel & Tara Mosier

ONE THING TO REMEMBER

Hospitality is the ministry, not the warm-up. Manage the doorway, not just the lesson.

01 / TWO TRUTHS

What guests feel before the study begins

The first ten minutes

People decide whether to return through eye contact and whether they can find a place to land - not simply through content.

Thermostat, not thermometer

Your energy sets the room's temperature and multiplies with the crowd.

02 / BEFORE PEOPLE ARRIVE

Prepare a room that expects people

Chairs

Set out slightly fewer than expected and add more as people arrive. Leave accessible edge seats open.

Food & welcome

Have coffee or food ready at the start. Know the first arrivals by name and ask them to watch the door.

A simple GPS

Say what will happen and in what order: connect, study, pray, fellowship.

03 / IN THE ROOM

Hospitality habits worth repeating

10 feet

Within ten feet of a guest, make eye contact.

5 feet

Within five feet, speak.

Open chair

One intentionally open seat quietly preaches grace.

04 / BIBLICAL ANCHOR

God welcomes before we do

Mark 6:39-40

Jesus had the crowd sit in groups before feeding them.

John 14:2

Jesus prepares a place for people who did not earn a seat.

THIS FALL

Host one gathering like God hosts: honor the first three arrivals, keep one seat open on purpose, and watch who fills it.