

Ideas for your online Alpha Day



There are three principles to keep in mind as you create an engaging and fruitful time for your guests on the Alpha Day or Weekend: **fun, relationships,** and the ministry of the **Holy Spirit**.

Over the next page, we offer two suggested templates for structuring your time together; one that takes place over a single day, one over the course of a weekend. We also share a couple of top tips, and ideas for how to structure your ministry time online.

Tip 1

Shorten the session

In our first model we have cut two episodes: What does the Holy Spirit do? and How can I make the most of the rest of my life? This is simply to limit the length of the session. You can share the missed episodes with guests and encourage them to watch in their own time, or you could offer an optional two week extension to your Alpha for those interested in watching and discussing these videos together.

Tip 2

Get in touch 1-to-1

It's important that all guests feel noticed and heard – this can be more difficult to ensure online. That's why we suggest that hosts get in contact with each guest and arrange a call with each of them before the Alpha Day or Weekend to chat about how they're finding Alpha.

Example ministry time

- Communicate with guests what will happen in this time
- Invite guests to turn off their camera for privacy
- Prayer of Committing Life to Jesus
- Invite Holy Spirit and then wait
- Reassure those not feeling anything
- Share short prayers
- Wait
- Close in prayer
- Play a worship song video to finish
- End ministry time

Example 1

Alpha Day

Length: 2.5 hours

For instance, Saturday 10am – 12.30pm

- 10am Arrivals and welcome**
Welcome guests and explain what they can expect from the day
- 10.10am Small group time together**
Spend a short time chatting, this is a good chance to just build relationships
- 10.25am Worship**
Set the mood with one worship song, either played live or on Vimeo. Then **watch film series episode**: *Who is the Holy Spirit?*
- 11am Small group discussion**
- 11.30am Watch film series episode**: *How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit?*
- 11.55am Ministry time**
Do this in your small groups
- 12.30pm End session**
Thank everyone for coming and end your session on time

Bonus Tip!

To make the Alpha Day feel distinct from other online sessions you could introduce a fun filler, such as a game or a quiz. You could also encourage everyone to bring their favourite dessert or snacks to help them through the longer session!

Example 2

Alpha Weekend

Over the course of a weekend

Friday evening – Sunday morning

- Friday evening**
- **Groups meet** for a relaxed chat and to play a game together
 - **Introduce the weekend schedule**, what to expect and how guests can engage to get the most out of the time
 - **Watch film series episode**: *Who the Holy Spirit?*
 - **Short small group discussion**
- Saturday 7.45pm** **Grab a drink**, get settled, and listen to a worship song
- 7.55pm Watch the film series episode**: *What does the Holy Spirit do?* – then, a five minute comfort break, encourage guests to bring a cup of tea or a snack into the upcoming discussion
- 8.30pm Small group discussion** for 35 minutes, followed by a five minute comfort break
- 9.10pm Watch the film series episode**: *How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit?*
- 9.50pm Small group ministry time**
- 10.30pm Invite all guests to your online church service** on Sunday and end the session
- Sunday morning** Before Sunday church service, **group hosts chat on WhatsApp with their small group** and encourage them to participate