

The Four Weekly Components To A HotSpot: Time

In this session, we are going to discuss how long your weekly HotSpot meeting should last.

The entire weekly timeframe for your weekly HotSpot, is two hours.

That does not mean everybody must leave at the end of two hours, it just means that the actual service time is over.

There are people that could care less about time constraints, however, there are many people that need to know when something starts and when something ends. If your group does not have a planned ending time, people who are very scheduled will tend to stop coming because time structure is very important to them.

Another practical reason why you need to be on a time schedule is that if one week you are going an hour and 1/2, and the next week you go three hours, then it becomes difficult to plan a schedule. If you meet in the evening, you will have people that must get up very early the next morning or if they have young children, getting home at a reasonable hour is important to them.

Let me stress that does not mean that everybody's going to leave after two hours. Most nights when my wife and I host our HotSpot, there are still people at our home three hours after we started, yet we officially wrapped up our meeting time an hour earlier. **When you say that prayer at the end of two hours, you're just giving everybody permission to leave without interrupting anything.**

Two hours is not a long period of time when you include the mealtime. We typically break up the evening this way:

40 minutes of meal time and fellowship.

20 minutes of prayer requests and prayer.

40 minutes video time that includes singing, and Bible message.

20 minutes of discussion time.

You as the leader need to always be aware of time. The concept is to transition from one weekly component of your HotSpot to the next without looking militant. The biggest obstacle is to move from the fellowship time into the prayer time. All the other components naturally lead into each other, however, stopping all the chatter around the room and going into the prayer request time is where most hosts get hung up when it comes to time. So, I just casually say, "all right everybody, let's start taking some prayer requests." That seems to focus everybody's attention to the next stage that we need to be entering in our time together.