

EFL Members Guidelines

Etiquette

- Our EFL meetings begin on time. Please make every attempt to arrive before the meeting begins to avoid disruption with opening prayer and worship.
- Place your phone on mute or vibrate.
- Be respectful of others around you.
- Give your undivided attention and presence to the group, regardless of who is speaking.
- Avoid side conversations and keep disruptions to a minimum.
- If you need to deal with an outside situation (phone call, text message, conversation, or emergency), silently excuse yourself with minimal interruption to the group.
- Solicitation, networking, and otherwise selling yourself and/or your business at EFL is not allowed. That said, we have a group of men learning and growing in Christ together that have a collection of talents and knowledge and are willing to share and fellowship with each other. That fellowship may lead to connections outside of EFL.
- Clean up after yourself.

Confidentiality

- Personal information shared with the group is confidential and may not be shared outside of the group. EFL Leadership takes this confidentiality seriously.
- People often share extremely personal information at EFL meetings. Deeply sharing about real situations allows us to learn from each other, study God's word to see what God says about the situation, and disciple each other about what God is calling us to do in those situations.
- Breaking the confidentiality of another Member or Attendee may result in expulsion from the EFL group and a ban from attending future EFL meetings and events.

Participation

- Discussion and participation is encouraged at EFL.
- Be honest and transparent about your struggles, so the group can help you, share from their experiences, and share Scripture that helped them or that speaks to those struggles.
- Be respectful and extend grace, understanding, and love to anyone sharing at our meetings. Assume positive intentions in what they say. Seek clarification if you feel a person says something offensive.
- Due to time constraints, no one person should dominate a conversation or share a long personal story to the point that it limits another person's opportunity to share.
- Share from your experience and understanding in brotherly love with respect and care for those you are sharing with.
- We often have different Biblical views based on our different personal beliefs and church upbringings. Expect occasional opinion differences (different interpretations among Christian believers ; open-handed issues), and do not take disagreements personally.
- EFL Teachers and Leaders may stop discussion or debate if a difference arises where one or more viewpoints strays outside of core Christian doctrine and belief as clearly stated in the Bible (closed-handed issues) and as affirmed in our EFL Statement of Faith (see website).
- You may respectfully disagree, discuss that disagreement, and share alternate viewpoints that differ from the Teacher in the study until requested by EFL Teachers or Leaders to terminate the discussion during the study.
- You will not verbally attack the Teacher or their application or interpretation of scripture, even if there is a vehement disagreement theologically. Seeking to destroy the entire premise of the Teacher's proposition is not acceptable.

- If a Member or Attendee wishes to discuss a disagreement further (open-handed or closed-handed), EFL Teachers and Leaders welcome the opportunity to continue these discussions after the study or at another agreed time and place outside of the group setting.
- If you feel there is an errant teaching that was not corrected in the study by EFL Teachers or Leaders, please bring your concerns to EFL Leadership after the study or at another agreed time and place outside of the group setting.

Member Responsibilities

- You are a follower of Jesus Christ and have accepted Him as your personal Savior and Lord. (John 3:16; Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; Romans 5:8; Romans 10:9-10)
- You have read and agree with the EFL Statement of Faith (see website).
- You are committed to daily walking in obedience to God, listening to Him through daily Bible study, and speaking to Him in daily prayer.
- You will be respectful and support EFL Teachers and Leaders in their efforts to teach and lead the group.
- You will open your mind, heart, and spirit to the Holy Spirit speaking to you in and through the Scriptures, the EFL Teacher, and other Members and Attendees in the study with humility, a learner mindset, and brotherly love. Leave your pride at the door.
- You will seek out opportunities to connect with other Members and Attendees outside of the study, building relationships and showing care, concern, and love for them as God loves them.

Leadership Responsibilities

- EFL Teachers and Leaders will be respectful of members and attendees as they teach and lead the group.
- It is up to the EFL Teacher what lesson materials and topics will be discussed, what topics or discussion points will not be discussed, when to cut off discussion or debate, and when to move the discussion forward to the next topic.
- The EFL Teacher may choose to “parking lot” a discussion or issue, if it is taking the group too far from the chosen topic of the lesson. The parking lot item may be discussed at the end of the study (if time permits), on a one-on-one basis after the study, or possibly at another study.
- EFL Teachers and Leaders reserve the right to ask individuals that are being disruptive to leave. Egregious disruptions or multiple disruptions may result in expulsion from the EFL group and a ban from attending future meetings and events.

Agreed

I agree to the EFL Guidelines stated above.

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____