

ITT — Host Guide

A simple way to host a gathering

Opening

Hosting a gathering is a great way to bring people together. Choose a story, invite a few people, and see what it opens up.

This guide is here if you want a little direction—you can keep it simple and make it your own.

A simple way to think about it

1. A short story
 2. A few thoughtful prompts
 3. A conversation that unfolds from there
 4. A chance to explore new perspectives together
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Before You Begin

Group size: Up to 12 people works well.

Choosing a story: Start with the Featured Story or something relevant to your group.

Timing: We recommend 45–60 minutes, including reading time.

How to share the story:

Click the Share button in the top right corner of the story. You'll receive a shareable 4-digit code. Ask your guests to enter that code at the top of the Story Library page: ittpublishing.com/library

Helpful Tips

1. You don't need to lead—just create space
2. It's okay if the conversation pauses
3. You don't need to fill every silence
4. There's no right outcome

Hosting Script

1. Welcome + Set the Tone

“Thanks for joining us—this is meant to be fun and easy. We’re going to read a short story together and see what comes up.”

2. Get Everyone Set Up

“I’ll share the code; once you’re in, we’ll start together.” Get and share the code as per above.

3. Choose How to Read

“Let’s all read this together.”

OR

“Take your time to read at your own pace, and we’ll come back when everyone’s finished.”

4. Transition Into Reflection

“Let’s explore the story further. There are a few prompts we can use to guide our conversation. We can share what stood out, how it connects to our experiences, or what it makes us think about—there’s no right answer.”

5. Set a Comfortable Tone

“Share as much or as little as you want—no pressure.”

6. Move Through Prompts

“We can take the prompt questions one at a time. We can let the conversation flow naturally. We can also skip anything that doesn’t feel relevant.”

7. Closing

“This was really interesting—thank you for being part of it. It’s always a little different depending on the story and the group. Should we do this again?”

Closing Thought

It doesn’t need to be perfect to be meaningful.