Although every group can be different, there are some components to Alpha in this context that make it a success. Here are 5 important factors to consider:

1. Get permission to run Alpha at your place of work. Ensure that you communicate to those in charge that Alpha is open to everyone at your place of work, regardless of their background. Let them know they don’t have to endorse Alpha, rather you’d like permission to use the facilities and promote it. If you work in a government office, please ensure that you know the laws relating to a faith-based group meeting on the premises.

2. Run Alpha in 1 hour. Depending on your workplace culture, you can run Alpha during a lunchtime or right after work. Do a short introduction, then show the 30-minute Alpha Film Series videos or present live talks while guests eat lunch or have snacks, and have small group discussion right after. Be considerate of workplace rules and end on time.

3. Be aware of workplace roles. Although we don’t label guests outwardly, there are still cultural norms. Guests may feel more comfortable discussing life issues if they are with familiar colleagues on the same professional level. Use your best judgment in order to create a good environment for discussion.

4. Invite people personally. Although a poster in the cafeteria or a group email invitation can provide lots of information, it’s really the one to one invitation that convinces people that Alpha is a safe place to talk about life’s big questions. Encourage your Alpha team to invite someone in person.

5. Do the Alpha Weekend or Day. The temptation is to ignore this element of Alpha but this is a key ingredient to one’s faith journey as well as building strong relationships with others. Take time to go away somewhere special as a group and allow the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts. This is also a time for guests to be prayed for and experience God in a fresh new way. Often guests say that the Alpha Weekend/Day was the best part of Alpha.

There are also a number of Training videos, Toolbox documents and other helpful resources available in Alpha Builder to help you run a great Alpha.

Visit alphausa.org/events to see what events are happening near you.