Sample weekly emails to small groups meeting over Zoom

Week 1, which included more comprehensive technical details:

Dear friends,

Thanks for signing up to be part of our virtual "The Chosen" discussion community this fall! This should be everything you need to get started.

Technical Details:

- 1. Sometime before Wednesday at 8 pm, watch episode 1 of The Chosen, which is found here. The Sacred Heart Parish Facebook page will post some sample discussion questions on Tuesday, in case you want to pre-consider some discussion points for Wednesday.
- 2. Ensure that you have Zoom downloaded on your preferred device. It works on smartphones, tablets, or traditional computers--but you may want to opt for the bigger screen of a tablet or computer, because it will be easier to see more faces of participants on one screen. It is not required to have video/webcam, but it does make the experience more connective if we can see each other.
- 3. If you requested additional Zoom tutorials, I will send you a separate email about how to download an account, and the basics of what to expect when you log in.
- 4. This Wednesday, 9/9, <u>click this link by 7:55 pm</u> to log into our group discussion Zoom meeting, which will begin at 8 pm. If it asks you to enter a password, the password is "chosen."
- 5. If you have technical difficulties: Call me on my cell phone at X

Experience Details:

- Our hope is to create a community where we get to know one another and share each week.
 This will be easiest to do for folks who commit to participating in all the sessions. However, as part of this pilot project, we welcome folks across all schedule conflicts, comfort zones, and curiosity levels! So, we will send you links to participate each week. but it will be okay if you do not attend all sessions.
- We will spend the first 15-20 minutes of Weeks 1 & 2 doing introductions, getting comfortable
 with the format and with the platform. Down the road, we'll use the full hour reserved for
 discussion.
- Do what you need to do to prepare. In addition to watching the show, you may feel compelled to do one or more of the following: Preview the discussion questions, prayerfully consider what personal thoughts you feel compelled to share, open your heart to listen deeply to others. This experience will be most meaningful when we take a posture of listening, as well as a willingness to share from our own experience and perspectives.

Looking forward to being community with you all!

Peace, Jessie Hubert, co-facilitator Sacred Heart (phone number)

Week 4, with fewer details:

Dear friends,

We look forward to seeing you this Wednesday from 8-9 pm over Zoom for our discussion of Episode 4 of The Chosen. Here are your weekly reminders:

- 1. Click this link to log into the Zoom meeting at 7:55. If prompted to enter a password, it is "chosen"
- 2. If you'll be joining us this week for the first time, please review the attachment, which will orient you to what to expect in the Zoom meetings.

This is the PDF of the PowerPoint slides. We showed the introductory PPT in Week 1 & 2, but not after that.

- 3. Remember to watch Episode 4 before our session. It is most convenient to watch ad-free over The Chosen app. But you can also watch it with ads on YouTube.
- 4. Think and pray over our discussion questions for this week. We know these questions are personal and intimate. Please know you are welcome to attend, be part of the community, and listen to others' sharing, even if you prefer not to share answers to these particular questions aloud.
 - What moments stuck with you from this episode? Why?
 - Describe your first "follow me" moment (or any "follow me" moment) with Jesus.
 - What incident in your life incited radical inward transformation? Would you regard it as a miracle?
 - Repentance fosters humility and surrender. What can you repent of?
- 5. If there were people you promised to hold in prayer last week, don't forget to remember them in these days of preparation, too.

Peace, Jessie, Lisa, Chuck