

How To (Host)



A Watch Party





INVITE

Inviting your friends to something is sometimes easy, and sometimes, it's not. Here are a few ways to you can invite your friends to a watch party:

- Send a text.
 - Hit up the Snap group chat.
 - Put it out there on your Discord server.
 - Send a handwritten letter/postcard.
 - Make a phone call or a FaceTime video call.
 - (Even crazier...) Ask them face-to-face when you see them at school or in your neighborhood.
 - Get creative! What is another way to invite someone to a watch party?
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INVOLVE FOOD

Food is a major connector in helping people feel welcomed and comfortable. We encourage you to food at your watch parties! Try simple things for food:

For **breakfast**: buy donuts, cook pancakes or muffins, make a fruit bowl, bring a breakfast casserole, collaborate on breakfast burritos.

For **lunch** or **dinner**: consider having everyone bring their own meals, order pizza, cook out, or have each person bring one piece of a larger meal (like tacos).

Obviously, some people may be concerned about COVID around meal-sharing. Please be gracious and have an open conversation about everyone's comfort level! Here are a few considerations:

1. Wash hands before and after you eat. (*Shouldn't we be doing this anyway?*)
2. Have wipes or hand sanitizer available.
3. Use disposable utensils and plates.
4. Sanitize and wipe down frequently touched objects and surfaces.



TUNE IN

Whether you join us on YouTube, on a Zoom call, or in our Youth Virtual Campus (click here >> <http://walloonym.online.church> OR scan the QR code below), make sure to get your viewing your viewing platform set up ahead of time to ensure the optimal engagement experience.





INITIATE INTENTIONAL CONVERSATION

The transition from casual interaction to intentional conversation rarely happens on accident in a group. Almost always, a leader must facilitate by gathering the group's attention, setting a few simple guidelines, and then prompting discussion with the group.

You could say something like, *"Ok everyone, let's talk about God and spiritual life for the next _____ minutes."* Then, if people in your group are not used to creating a safe space for sharing, explain a few simple guidelines:

1. Everyone's voice is valued and welcome.
2. We use "I" statements to speak about our own opinions or point of view.
3. We are not trying to interrupt or "fix" other people.
4. We listen to each other.



PRAY TOGETHER

Here are a few possible questions to generate prayer requests:

- What is one thing we can be praying for you (or your family) this week?
- What is the one thing that feels the most stressful or is creating the most anxiety for you this coming week?
- What is one place in your life right now where you need God's guidance, breakthrough, or provision?
- Who is one person you hope will begin a relationship with Jesus?
- What is one area of concern in my world that needs the love and power of Jesus to bring healing and hope?

Please note: Sometimes in groups, it can feel really redundant to take time sharing your prayer requests, and then praying through those very same prayer requests!

We would encourage you to let people know that in sharing with each other, God is hearing their needs, then pray briefly for all the things shared (unless of course, there is an obvious need to stop and pray right then for 1-2 of the requests. For example, someone might need physical healing or spiritual breakthrough. And that would be a good time to pause and pray right then.)



THINK BIGGER

Consider getting missional as a group! Pray about how to impact the needs of this world with the love of Jesus. Groups that serve together always grow closer to each other and to God.

Here are some ideas to prime your discussion in this direction:

1. Ask: "Is there someone we know in need?"
2. Go on a prayer walk together.
3. Pick up trash together.
4. Bake some cookies to deliver to a neighbor or an essential worker.
5. Take up an offering for a need that still exists in the world.



WORSHIP TOGETHER

Some groups have someone who can sing or play an instrument (or both!). Feel free to be creative about how your time of worship happens.

Also think about how to make lyrics accessible since people may not have the songs you're singing memorized. You can find lyrics online very easily,. You can either print them off, or you can even share them with others in your group on a group email or text thread. This way everyone can have them on their phone.

We imagine that some watch parties might prefer to substitute their own community live worship for some or all of the youth worship time. That is totally fine!

Jesus said, "True worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and this who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth" (John 4:23-24).



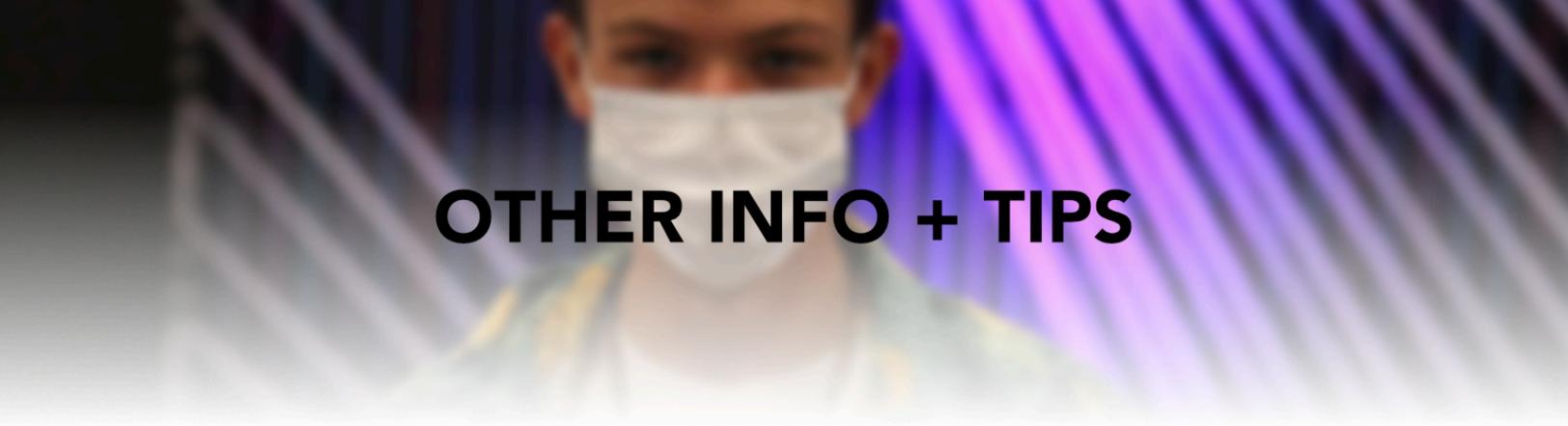
SHARE IT

POST ABOUT IT!

HASHTAG IT!

Social media is a fantastic way to share your watch party experiences, connect with friends, and encourage others. So, with the permission of those in your group, share your photos, videos, and comments using **#WalloonYM**.





OTHER INFO + TIPS

- Have people stay at home if they are sick or symptomatic in some way.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Consider local ordinances and health department recommendations regarding masks, social distance, appropriate gathering spaces, group sizes, etc.
- If watching together, hosts will need to set up a suitable device (television, laptop, etc.) with internet to watch the Virtual Youth Service together.
- DON'T FORGET TO HAVE FUN WITH YOUR WATCH PARTY!
(After all, it's a watch **party!**)