



Global Coffee Break - Report for Classis Huron — April 2022

This season of dealing with a pandemic has been challenging for pastors and leaders alike. It does encourage us to ask the question, what does this make possible? Many Bible study groups were forced to go online using Zoom. God provided some great opportunities through this new technology.

- **Coffee Break** has been able to invite leaders from across Canada to attend workshops and retreats all on Zoom (some who have never had the opportunity for training locally.)
- We started a Canada-wide Bible study, and people from every province in the country joined together for learning, sharing and prayer.
- In a local group, one woman who suffered from extreme anxiety, had stopped attending her local **Coffee Break** before Covid. When the group went online, she started to come back, as she could simply listen to the conversations.
- A woman who worked part-time joined more often, as she could join in the comfort of her home, before scrambling to get ready to work an afternoon shift. Getting dressed for **Coffee Break**, and then racing home to change into a uniform seemed like too much. The online option simplified an otherwise busy morning.
- A woman who moved to another province could continue with her group that gave her love and support during this time of transition. Similarly, someone away on a holiday was able to join.
- A mom was able to invite her daughter to her Bible study, as she had no group in her area.
- Young moms could listen in, while children play at their feet. While this may have been chaotic, it gave women a chance to connect when otherwise they may have been isolated through the pandemic.

Outreach Opportunities: As we come out of a pandemic, consider the opportunities that are available as people in our neighbourhoods are searching for truth and direction in these challenging times. Could this be an opportunity for the church to reach out, and to welcome the seeker? **Discover Your Bible** resources are excellent for all groups (not just women).

Alpha Project: At **Global Coffee Break** we are developing some cohorts of churches that are interested in outreach, using **Alpha** and **Discover Your Bible** resources. Both are outreach oriented; both use hospitality and conversation to explore the Christian faith. I hope to connect with churches that might be interested in this opportunity. I'll have more info available at the Classis Meeting.

Coffee Break/Discover Your Bible has been a ministry in the CRC and beyond for over 50 years. We have more than 45 studies, in 7 languages written with wisdom from Biblical scholars, using adult education principles. We continue to write new materials, and work towards new translations as requests come from leaders around the world who desire to introduce people to Jesus through Bible discovery. I'll be handing out some of our new resources at the Classis Meeting. I hope to meet you there!

Marian Lensink
 905-220-0457
mlensink@crcna.org
 Global Coffee Break
www.globalcoffeebreak.org