

Divorce and Beyond Virtual Seminar FAQ's

January 22 – 23, 2021

We look forward to your participation in the Divorce and Beyond Virtual Seminar. We know you have questions and we hope this document will give you all the answers you need. If you have additional questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

We look forward to "seeing" you on January 22-23rd

- The Divorce and Beyond Team

1.) When is the seminar?

Seminar Dates & Times:

Friday, January 22nd – 6:45pm – 9:00pm

Saturday, January 23rd – 8:45am – 12:15pm

2.) Where does the seminar take place?

The seminar will take place **online virtually**. This means you will be attending the seminar using software called Zoom. You will be attending a "Zoom Meeting" which will allow you to see speakers giving live talks and will also allow you to participate in breakout group discussions, all through the power of technology! (For those who are curious, the leadership team will be speaking live and broadcasting the seminar from the YMCA in Lebanon, where the seminar has most recently been held in person.) See below for details on how to use Zoom.

3.) What is the format of the seminar?

The seminar will consist of two aspects – 1.) you will see live speakers who will be talking directly to all those attending and 2.) you will participate in breakout group discussions. You will listen to talks from 10 to 40 minutes long with breaks between sessions for breakout group discussion. You will be assigned to a Zoom breakout group of 4-6 participants and a "table" leader. You will be moved from the live general sessions into your breakout groups by our Zoom moderator, and then returned to the live sessions when your group time is over. Your movement between the main live speaker sessions and your breakout group will be done for you.

4.) How should I be prepared to attend the seminar?

- Be ready to attend a Zoom Meeting
 - See below on how to Attend the Zoom Meeting
 - See below on Best Practices for Zoom Meetings
- Have Seminar Manual printed and at your side – you will want to follow along and fill in material throughout the seminar – See below on seminar printed material
- Remove distractions - put your phone away, turn off notifications, close other applications
- Have pen, snacks, and drink of choice available for a more enjoyable experience!

5.) Can I see the seminar schedule?

Yes, the Divorce and Beyond Seminar Schedule is included in your Seminar Manual – see below. You can also find the schedule on the Divorce and Beyond website. www.divorceandbeyond.org

6.) How many people will be participating?

Good question! We're not sure! This is the first Divorce and Beyond Virtual Seminar due to COVID restrictions. We can tell you our seminars usually average between 45 – 75 participants per seminar when it is held in person. All seminar speakers, volunteers, and leadership have experienced the pain of divorce and are here to serve you.

7.) Tell me more about the seminar breakout groups.

Each group will consist of 4-6 participants and a "table" leader. The groups will be divided into all women or all men. The table leaders have all experienced divorce, attended the seminar in the past and have been trained to lead. We are often told the group discussions are the most valuable time during the seminar, as participants get a chance to relate to others who are also traveling down the similar road of separation or divorce.

8.) Tell me more about the speakers.

Feel free to learn a bit about our speakers ahead of the seminar by visiting our website (www.divorceandbeyond.org) and clicking on the About Us tab. You will have the opportunity to hear much more about their stories during the seminar.

9.) Is there printed material for the seminar?

Yes, there is a Divorce and Beyond Seminar Manual which will be used throughout the seminar. It is an important part of the material presented and will be a useful reference following the seminar. There are three different ways you may receive the manual. 1.) If you entered your mailing address and requested a manual when you registered, a printed copy will be sent via USPS to your home. 2.) All participants will be sent the manual in the form of a PDF file via email which you can print at home. 3.) The Countryside YMCA Lebanon will have copies of the manual at the front desk if you would like to pick one up ahead of time. We strongly encourage you to have the manual in a printed version so that you can follow along during the seminar.

10.) I have never used Zoom – What do I need to do?

First, be assured of two things – Zoom is FREE and Zoom is quite easy to use! You will need the Zoom software downloaded onto your device (desktop, laptop, tablet, or phone). We highly recommend that you participate using a desktop, laptop or a tablet for the best experience. There are two ways Zoom is downloaded onto your device.

- 1.) The Zoom web browser client will download automatically when you join your first Zoom meeting. See below for instructions on how to join the Seminar Meeting.
- 2.) Or you can manually download the Zoom web browser client by going to https://www.zoom.us/download#client_4meeting

11.) How do I join the D&B Seminar event on January 22nd and 23rd?

You will receive a **Divorce and Beyond email** ahead of the seminar which will contain a **Zoom link**. **You will click on the link** which will take you to a **Zoom Meeting**. If clicking on the link doesn't work, copy the link into your search engine (ie. Google) and it will take you to the Zoom meeting. The Zoom prompts will tell you any other steps you need to do to enter the meeting. One of our leaders will be acting as the "Zoom Moderator" and will be granting you access to join the meeting (please be patient as many folks may be joining at one time). A Zoom Meeting will allow you to see others in person and they will see you. **The same link will be used for both Friday and Saturday.**

The Zoom Meeting will open 15 minutes before the start of the seminar on both Fri (6:45pm) and Sat (8:45am). We suggest you join early so we can welcome you and be sure your technology connection is working correctly.

12.) Can you share some best practices for using Zoom?

Zoom allows you to participate in a meeting with others in real time. They can see you and you can see them. Here are some tips for providing the best results for all participants during the seminar...

- a.) Try to find a quiet, private area in your home to participate. Eliminating distractions will enhance your experience, as well as others who are talking with you in your breakout groups.
- b.) If possible, use an area that has good light so we can see you!
- c.) You may find your experience enhanced if you elevate your computer screen, laptop, or tablet using a box, books, etc. so that you are looking straight into your screen. This also provides a better view of you to others.
- d.) Since discussions in small groups can contain sensitive information, and the security and privacy of participants is very important to the Divorce and Beyond team, we ask that no one else be in the room during breakout group discussions. Using headphones can keep discussions from being overheard, but a room with the door closed is best.
- e.) We ask that your video be used during all breakout group discussions. Feel free to turn your video off during the speaker sessions, especially if you must step away.
- f.) We ask that you remain MUTED unless asked to do otherwise during the main sessions. You will want to UNMUTE so that you can talk to others during the breakout group sessions.
- g.) **For security purposes, we request you modify your screen name to be your first name ONLY (first name + first letter of your last name)** – think of it as a name tag that you would wear if we were meeting in person. You can modify your screen name in your Zoom profile. If you don't know how to do this, your table leader will assist you upon joining the seminar.

NOTE: For your safety, security and protection, we protect the identities of all participants – do not post names, pictures, or descriptions on any platform.

13.) Can more than one person participate in the same room on the same device (computer/laptop/tablet)?

Each participant will need to have their own registration and participate in the seminar using their own device. This allows for the best experience both for the individual and others in their breakout group.

14.) What are Divorce and Beyond 13-Week Support Groups?

These are the heart of the Divorce and Beyond ministry, as the journey of healing and hope for those experiencing divorce really takes place in these 3 month recovery groups. The seminar is designed to be the start of this journey and show you a glimpse of all you can experience in these support groups. The Divorce and Beyond ministry partners with churches in the area who offer DivorceCare Support Groups. These groups consist of video content and group discussion each week on a variety of topics related to all aspects of divorce, from forgiveness to finances. The groups are offered at a variety of church locations and times with the hopes that all seminar participants will find a place/time that works with their schedules. These groups are made up of both male and female participants and are lead by one male and one female trained group leader. We cannot emphasize enough how important these groups are to moving towards recovery and healing in the divorce process. There are thousands of individuals over the years who can attest to the effectiveness of these groups. (DivorceCare is the ministry material used in these groups. For more information see www.DivorceCare.org.)

15.) How do I sign up for the Divorce and Beyond 13-Week Support Groups?

A list of the locations and times of all groups being offered will be included at the end of your manual. It is also posted on our website (www.divorceandbeyond.org). At the end of the seminar, you will be given a chance to let your table leader know if you are interested in attending one of the DivorceCare Support Groups. You may also contact the groups directly to sign up.

16.) Is my personal information kept private?

Divorce and Beyond does NOT share your information with any other organization or entity except when you sign up for a DivorceCare Support Group, in which case your information is given to the partner church contact person for that specific group.

17.) What if I have questions ahead of the seminar?

Please feel free to reach out to us at info@divorceandbeyond.org

18.) What if I have questions on the actual day of the seminar?

For issues while attending the seminar, you can speak with your Table Leader or you will have the capability of sending private “chats” to the Zoom Moderator.

19.) How can I stay connected with the Divorce and Beyond ministry after the seminar?

We would love to stay connected with you! We have created a private Divorce and Beyond Alumni Group and hope you will join us there to hear of upcoming events pertaining to separation, divorce, or singles, as well as topics of interest and support to those who have already attended the seminar or a DivorceCare Support Group.

www.facebook.com/groups/divorceandbeyond

For public information on upcoming seminars and partner church events pertaining to separation, divorce, or singles, please follow us on Facebook or visit our website.

www.facebook.com/DivorceAndBeyond

www.divorceandbeyond.org