

Who is a leader to be and what is a leader to do?

Who is a leader to be or to be becoming?

The Role of a Leader

Why does every small group need a leader? Life change doesn't happen by accident.

You are a **leader** – not a just a **facilitator**. You provide more than a discussion.

You are a **leader** – not just a **teacher**. You provide more than content.

You are a **leader** – not just a **host**. You provide more than a couch.

You are a **leader** – not just a **buddy**. You provide more than a friendship.

The Biblical view of leadership...

Not everyone should strive for it.

¹Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. James 3:1

But those who do should be men/women of character and commitment.

¹Timothy 3: above reproach, committed to purity in relationships, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money, able to manage his own family well, respected in the home, not conceited with a good reputation

This character and commitment is expressed in the context of healthy relationships.

²Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers— not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; ³not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. ⁴And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. 1 Peter 5:2-4

What is a leader do?

Before the Meeting

Pray

Prepare Yourself

Plan for the Meeting

What type of environment do I need to create?

What type of tone or feel does the group need?

How many questions should I include in the study?

During the Meeting

Lead Group to...

Engage With One Another

“Off Topic” Relationship Building

Prayer – Prayer is the leading indicator of the intimacy of your small group.

Encounter God through Biblically Based Discussions

Remember, your goal is not to teach but to have your group learn. When you talk, do most of your sentences end with a question mark or an exclamation mark? This will tell you the type of “mark” you are leaving on your group.

Engage every learning style when possible. – The power of a good icebreaker.

Express their Commitments to One Another

Authenticity – Commitment and accountability is always preceded by authenticity.

“I need to apply this to my life.”

Accountability – Taking people kicking and screaming where they really want to go.
Sheryl Fleisher, Willow Groups Conference 2000

After the Meeting

Reconnect where necessary

Encouraging Encounters – I am so proud of what God is doing in your life.

Corrective Conversations – Hey pal, you need to let others talk.

²²Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

²³Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately

forgets what he looks like. ²⁵But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does. James 1:22-25

Have **fun** together

Your groups ability to connect during group time is contingent upon what you outside of group times. Nobody wants to be real in a group of strangers. Some of you will need to plan for this. Others it happens naturally.

What could your group do to spend more time together for fun outside of group time?

Serve Together

“Sneaky Learning”

Go for the easy win: Where are the places that our group could serve together in the church or in the community where I would have to do little prep or coordination?

Worship Together

Growing large and small at the same time - a big church still feels big if you don't see the people you know at worship.