



GROUP LEADER FAQs

What if I don't know the answer to a question? No one knows the answer to every question, so don't stress about this. Be honest with your group member if this situation arises. Make a commitment to research and come back with an answer. Also, remember the encouragement from 2 Timothy 3:16.

How long should our group meet each week? Depending on the type of group, this will vary. Many group meetings do not exceed two hours. For a LifeGroup meeting, you may choose to follow the format of: 30 minutes for connecting/eating a meal; 60 minutes for group discussion; & then 30 minutes for prayer

What if someone is monopolizing the group discussion? Establishing group 'house rules' is a good way to curb monopolization and endless talking about things that don't matter. Engage each person, in the group, to provide an effective group experience for everyone. To ensure that group members are listening to one another with enthusiasm, not obligation, consider chatting with the person privately and state that the group is designed to spur growth by allowing each person to be known, know others, and build each other up. This is done by hearing from everyone. Ask for cooperation with this goal, and consider establishing a time limit for talking, suggest quick summaries so others may contribute, and create a structure where you elicit responses from specific people when called on.

What if a group member is consistently late? Your group members' time is important, and so is yours. It can feel frustrating when a group member is consistently late. It is important to set the expectation early that your group will be starting on time each week. If a group member is late several meetings in a row, take them aside to understand why. They may have personal issues that are attributing to the problem.

Are there some helpful Scriptures to read and remember when considering how to handle conflict?

Yes! Look to Proverbs 6:16-19, Proverbs 17:14, Proverbs 20:3, Matthew 5:23-24, 1 Peter 5:5-7, Ephesians 4:1-3, Proverbs 18:19.

I am leading a LifeGroup, what should our group be studying? Each week, you can access discussion questions based on Sunday's message. The questions are available under the 'Leader Resource' Quick Link in the Group section of our website. A sermon-based LifeGroup is a great way for your group to dive deeper into the weekly sermon. Another option is using the plethora of resources available on RightNow Media. Also, feel free to contact our Adult Ministry Coordinator or another church leader for suggestions of recommended studies.

How often should our group meet? No matter what type of group you are leading, consistency is important. The more frequently you gather, the easier it will be for you to form lasting relationships. Most of our groups meet weekly throughout the year, taking a break (or doing something unique) for the summer.

What size should our group be? It is important to keep a group small enough that every participant can be shepherded and cared for well. If your group is large, consider keeping a leader to group ratio around 1:6 and offering 'break out' opportunities with that ratio in mind. Depending on the nature of your group, it may be wise to consider planting a new group.

How do I plant a new group? We encourage group leaders to identify an apprentice leader and prepare the apprentice to eventually lead the group to prepare for group multiplication or in case you need to be replaced.