

6 Things Every Leader Should Do

#1 - Pray for your Group

One of the most powerful things you can do for the people of your Connect Group is to pray for them consistently. Pray for the health of your group and those in your group.

- Be prepared beforehand. Everything that goes into that.
- In all your preparations, don't neglect prayer.
- The best way to prepare for a group is to pray.
- Pray before. Cover it with prayer leading up.
- For God's guidance.
- Pray for freedom. 2 Corinthians 3:17
- Take prayer requests.
- Encourage your group to post prayer needs in group text.

#2 - Create Moments

Connect Groups should have structure but create opportunities for fun and spontaneity. Create moments for connection for those in your group and be intentional about getting to know people outside of "group time".

- Take communion together.
- Night of Worship as a group.
- Game nights.
- Spa treatments.
- Football games.
- Lunch dinner.
- Float the river.
- Pool day.
- Develop Relationships inside and outside of your group.

#3 - Contact Your Group Weekly

Maintaining weekly contact with your group builds relational equity that leads to a greater ability to lead those in your group. Making calls, sending texts, and making time to connect with people outside of the group allows growth to happen.

- Email.
 - Social Media, Facebook.
 - Group Text.
 - Most effective method for immediate communication.
 - Spread the word, important news, urgent information.
 - Uplifting Bible verse, prayer request, word of encouragement.
 - None of these say “I care about **you**” more than a **phone** to call.
- Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you are doing.
1 Thessalonians 5:11
- Don't let group time be the only time you talk to your group.

#4 - Encourage Spiritual Growth

As Group Leaders we encourage further transformation in Christ. Healthy things grow and the way we remain healthy is by ensuring we are spiritually intense and lead others to be the same.

Encourage your members to show up every week to their small groups. Just attending every other week won't lead to transformational small group experiences. When people attend small groups consistently, they put themselves in a position to grow.

Hebrews 10:25 says, *“Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing. Instead, let us encourage one another all the more, since you see that the Day of the Lord is coming nearer”*

- A habit means you consistently do something. You make it a priority.
- Growth is the result of staying grounded.
- Make church a priority.
- Group a priority.

- It's the place where accountability happens.
- It's the place where tough questions are answered, with Biblical Truth.
- It's the place where you will be told what you need to hear, and not what you want to hear.
- Its the place where the truth will be spoken in love.
- It's the place where you will be encouraged to live life God's way, not yours.

-Hebrews 10:24 says, *“Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds”* (NIV).

#5 - Celebrate Special Occasions

When we celebrate, we show we value those around us. Everyone likes to be celebrated! So find as many reasons as you can to celebrate together.

- Birthdays.
- Anniversaries.
- Engagements.
- New jobs, promotions.
- New babies.
- First time guests.
- We call it up in my group during prayer and praise report time.

#6 - Connect to Next Steps

As a Connect Group Leader, you get to guide, lead, and model how it looks to take next steps. You get the opportunity to connect people to their next step!

-From serving.

-To baptism.

-To tithing.

-And everything in between.

-Connect One.

-Sharing stories. People are impacted by stories.

-Allow others to give real life examples about how God blessed them by saying yes to their next step.