

LEADER: SUGGESTIONS & THOUGHTS AS YOU LEAD...!

5 thoughts on leading your group

1. PRAY for insight as you begin to prepare for leading your group. Ask for God's wisdom, that the Holy Spirit will be the teacher and that you will be God's instrument to lead the group to greater understanding and a willingness to commit to having a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. **Prayer should be your primary source of personal preparation for leading your group.**
2. PLAN where you want to take your group in the next 60-90 days. Is your group strong in some areas and weak in others? How can you challenge the members to live more balanced Christian lives? Challenge members to look for new ways for them to CONNECT and/or take NEXT STEPS toward growing in their relationship with Jesus Christ. Remember, your role will be most impactful if you focus on simply being an **ENCOURAGER**.
3. PONDER YOUR PROGRESS after each meeting and at the end of a semester. Reflect on what went well and what did not. Re-evaluation is key to your growth as a leader. Consider whether your plan is being effective in moving the group to greater understanding and commitment. How are you doing with leading the discussion: is it stimulating, challenging, and meaningful? Are you able to keep the group on track? Do you need to make some changes?
4. PREVIEW the weekly GG questions, understanding that they are simply a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. As the GG leader, you should examine and evaluate the questions based on the needs of your group. Decide in advance what is most important to focus on, should time not allow for the entire lesson. Again, it is just a guide for you!
5. PROMOTE ACCOUNTABILITY: Your goal as the leader is to bring the group into a stimulating discussion that helps the members recognize their needs for personal life change. Ultimately, you want them to be willing to commit to change with accountability to the group. Accountability helps us to persevere in our commitments as we all grow in our relationships with Jesus Christ. Encourage each group member to be accountable to the group for personal progress at the next meeting.

April 22, 2018
Gifted | Part 3

In his letter to the Romans 12:6, Paul taught, "We have different gifts, according to the grace given us... let us use them in proportion to our faith."

Read Romans 12:1, 1 Corinthians 12-14 & Ephesians 4

The spiritual gifts are found in these passages in the New Testament. The lists are not exactly identical. Some overlapping occurs. According to 1 Corinthians 12:6, God the Father pours in the power, Jesus the Son assigns the ministry, and God the Holy Spirit gives out the gifts as He deems necessary for the proper functioning of the church body.

QUESTIONS

- When people say we should discover our spiritual gifts, what do they mean?
- Why is it important for Christians to know their gifts?
- What is the difference between talents, natural abilities, and spiritual gifts?
- When does a person receive his/her spiritual gift(s)?
- What is the purpose of the spiritual gifts?

As a GG...you probably know each other better than you realize. During this discussion, open up to one another and share what you have observed or currently observing in each other's spiritual journey!

- What do I enjoy doing?...
- What is the Holy Spirit telling me?
- What ministry in my life is God blessing?
- What gifts do others see operating in me?

Hopefully you've had a chance to take the spiritual gifts test either through the New River App or through the newriver.church website. Please share with your GG what your test results were and discuss how you reacted once you found out!