
Preparing For The Group

Goal: This will help you prepare ahead of time for facilitating your group.

Guiding Principle: You do not want to show up to your first meeting without a well thought out plan in place. Also, you don't want to put in all the work of having a great plan without people to participate. The work of a Connect Leader starts long before the first group meeting.

“A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times.”

Mark 4:3-8

1. Pray:

Ask God to guide your thoughts and words.

2. Prepare:

- Set aside time to go over your materials prior to your meeting. Contact your Team Leader if you have questions or need some direction.
- Create a welcoming environment. Think through: Seating, temperature, lighting, music, snacks, name tags, pets, kids, etc.
- Have extra materials on-hand (Bibles, workbooks, Pens, etc).

3. Keep inviting:

- Start inviting now. Don't wait. On average you will get a few sign ups from the Fill month as we promote Connect Groups at Grace. But the most successful way to fill your group is through personal invitations.
- Encourage other groups members to invite others as well. A good goal is to have 20% more people on your roster than you'd like to show up.

4. Follow Up:

- With each new sign up within 48 hours.
 - With those who don't show up or miss a meeting.
 - Send weekly meeting reminders and prayer requests.
 - Connect on Sundays at church
 - Remind your group about upcoming church activities, social outings, outreaches.
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