

How to lead a Small Group

You don't have to lead the perfect discussion every time

You don't have to get through ALL the material

GOALS

Challenge people to think about the topic, engage with it

Create a safe environment

Create a space where people can ask questions

Help everyone feel their input is valued

KEYS

1. Ask Great Questions
 - a. You don't have to have all the right answers
 - i. Ask OPEN ENDED questions
 - ii. Not true/false, multiple choice
 - iii. Avoid Sunday School answers/obvious
 - b. Ask:
 - i. What do YOU think about that?
 - ii. How does that make you feel?
 - iii. How does that make you want to respond?
 - iv. What stuck out to you?
 - v. Which of these is the hardest thing for you?
2. Ask Good Follow Up Questions
 - a. What makes you say that?
 - b. How do you feel about that
 - c. How would you explain that answer to x?
3. Start an Argument
 - a. Play Devil's Advocate
 - b. Do you really agree with what the author is saying
 - c. Why did God design it/do it this way?
 - d. What would you say to someone who disagreed with you?
 - e. Why do we have to do it that way?
4. Ask Application Questions
 - a. What does this have to do with us?
 - b. How does this change your perspective on this topic?
 - c. What are you going to do differently?
5. Create a SAFE Place
 - a. Remind of ground rules
 - b. Stick to guidelines yourself
 - c. Ensure people feel affirmed
 - d. Avoid advice giving
6. Handle Challenging People
 - a. Overtalker/Dominator

- i. Remind everyone- contribute equally
 - ii. Pull person aside
- b. Non-talker
 - i. Call on them specifically
 - ii. Affirm them when the DO share
- c. Tangent Starter
 - i. Make them your helper
- d. Insensitive
 - i. Remind group of values
 - ii. Pull them aside