



FAQ'S ON LEADING A GROUP

How long is the commitment for leading a Small Group?

Small Groups run in 3 seasons – Fall, Spring, and Summer. Your commitment can vary based on the season, ex. summer being the shortest. After each season ends, it's up to you and your group to decide whether you will continue meeting at the start of the next season.

Why are there seasons for groups?

This allows leaders and participants to have built-in breaks throughout the year. We believe there is value in cyclical beginnings and endings to Small Group experiences.

What studies or curriculum do I use to lead my Small Group? We have a variety of curriculum suggestions available to you. You can find a lot of great resource on Right Now Media, or the church can direct you to Bible studies based on specific topics. You can also create a group that discusses the weekend messages.

Do I have to provide snacks at every meeting?

Having snacks and drinks available during a Small Group can change the whole mood of the group and help put people at ease. If you don't want to provide snacks and drinks for every meeting like at your home, delegate some of the responsibility to other people in the group and let people take turns. If you're meeting at a location in the community like a restaurant then it's up to the participants. But be honoring to the business of your meeting place.

What if my group gets too full (i.e. we outgrow our location)? You have the option as a leader to close your group once your group has launched. Give it a few weeks after you launch your group as attendance can fluctuate then decide if it's time to close your group.

Why do I need to keep attendance? Part of leading a group is caring for the individuals that are in your group. Taking Small Group attendance is essential because it helps our teams keep track of people and care for them best if something comes up. It's important to keep your group roster up to date. If more people sign up then attend, make sure to clean up your members list to keep an accurate count.

What should I do if someone asks a question I can't answer?

It's okay to not have all the answers. Thankfully, we can find guidance through prayer, God's Word, and the Holy Spirit. Encourage them to spend time reading the Bible and praying. Also, let them know that you will do your best to get some information and get back with them at your next Small Group. Do some personal research and call your coach to get advice.

What if my group wants to keep meeting, but I want to step out of leading the group? Whether you continue leading your group or not, you should always have someone in your group that you are raising up to be a future leader. You can either hand your leadership role to the person you have raised up, or if no one steps up to lead the group, your group members can sign up for different groups at the beginning of the next semester.

Can my group keep meeting after the season ends?

We recommend that groups meet on a recreational or outreach basis between seasons. This is a great time to plan a fun group activity or an outreach event where you all serve together. It's healthy to take a break from the traditional Small Group setting. Just because you take a break from regular meetings, doesn't mean you have to cut off relationship with your group members. Be sure to keep up with them and be available for them when you can.

What should I do if someone in my group shares something with me (or the group) that requires attention beyond what I (or we) can provide?

If you encounter a difficult situation within your Small Group, please know that you are not alone. If a member is going through a crisis, you can rally the group around them to provide prayer, encouragement, and support. Use wisdom and be sensitive to the situation. If you are unsure of what to do, don't hesitate to reach out.

How can I share stories of life change or other wins from the Small Group?

We love hearing about lives that are changed through Small Groups. You can share your stories with your coach or email groups@elevatechurch.com.