ccf

DGROUP 101

5

BOOK

GLC LEVEL 2

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DGROUP 101

5

BOOK

GLC LEVEL 2

BOOK 5: DGROUP 101

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The GLC Program

Global Leadership Center (GLC) is CCF's very own discipleship resource to help you grow in your walk, start a group, and help others start their own group.

A SIMPLE TRAINING ROADMAP TO GUIDE YOU THROUGH THIS JOURNEY OF FAITH IN CHRIST·

ENGAGE

Build relationships and share Jesus with others

GLC LEVEL 1

EDIFY

Grow together in a Discipleship Group

GLC LEVEL 2

EQUIP

Start leading a Discipleship Group

GLC3LEAD

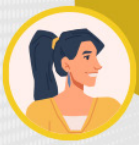
EMPOWER

Help others start their own Discipleship Group

DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY

engage

build relationships and share Jesus with others



Hey, Sis! Do you want to know more about Jesus and the Bible?

Dleader/ Dmember

Okay! When can we meet?

Guest, family or friend

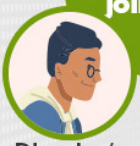
TOOLS FOR YOUR JOURNEY:

Best Decision Tract

Real Talk Booklet

edify

grow together in a Discipleship Group



Bro! Are you interested in joining a Dgroup?

Dleader/ Dmember

Game! Where do I sign up?

Guest, family or friend

TOOLS FOR YOUR JOURNEY:

Real Talk Booklet

True Life Retreat

GLC 1

equip

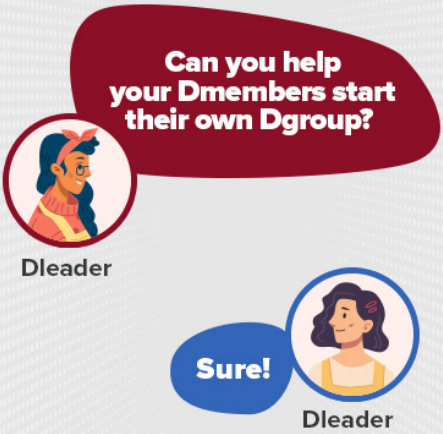
start leading a Discipleship Group

TOOL FOR YOUR JOURNEY:

GLC 2

empower

help others start their own Discipleship Group



TOOL FOR YOUR JOURNEY:

GLC 3

OUR TRAINING

GLC
LEVEL 2

GLC
LEVEL 1

ENTRY
OPEN TO ALL

▶ GLC LEVEL 1

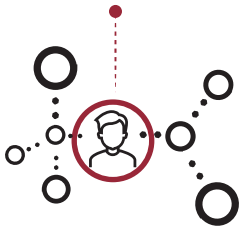
Trainees at this level are taught basic Biblical truths and how to effectively share the Gospel **(Pray, Care, Share)**

MILESTONES

ENTRY
TRAINEES SHOULD BE DISCIPLING AT LEAST THREE PEOPLE

▶ GLC 3 LEAD

Trainees at this level are taught how to be spiritual multipliers



ENTRY
TRAINEES SHOULD BE FOLLOWING UP AT LEAST TWO PEOPLE

▶ GLC LEVEL 2

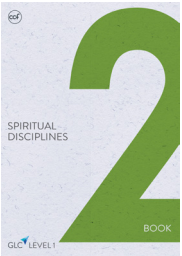
Trainees at this level are taught the right doctrines and how to start discipling through a DGroup

GLC LEVEL 1

OPEN TO ALL
EXPLAINS THE GOSPEL, THE BASICS OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE, AND CCF'S DNA.

ONE BY ONE

Explore how you can experience lasting change from the inside out through a personal encounter with Jesus Christ. Make a positive impact on the world around you as you discover and live out the truth and grace of the gospel.



SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

Learn about spiritual habits that, when practiced diligently will help you know Jesus more. Discover His will for your life through His Word, the Bible.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

Discover who the Holy Spirit is and the importance of the Spirit-filled life for every child of God. Understand the gifts and fruit of the Spirit and learn how to be more dependent on the Lord as you apply the truth about the Holy Spirit in your life.

CCF DNA

See the big picture of what Christ's Commission Fellowship is all about, discover our God-given mission, vision, and core values. Know how you are uniquely designed by God to take part in this lifetime of faith adventure of fulfilling God's Great Commission.

GLC true life

OPEN TO ALL

True Life, a two-day spiritual retreat, explores the meaning of a truly fulfilling life. Many seek happiness through worldly success, possessions, and relationships, yet these often leave a void.

The retreat emphasizes that it's faith in Jesus Christ alone that brings true life, one that's filled with joy, hope, and purpose. John 10:10, ("I have come that they may have life and have it to the full") highlights Jesus' promise of abundant life. Participants examine their hearts, share their stories, and discover the victorious life Christ makes available to all who believe in Him.

GLC BAPTISM

OPEN TO ALL

Coming to know Jesus as our Lord and Savior causes us to experience various changes in our lives, beginning with our hearts. Water Baptism is the outward expression, a symbol of what has taken place inside us when we accepted Jesus as Savior and Lord.

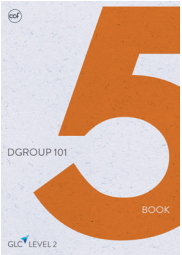
GLC LEVEL 1 COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed Books 1 to 4
2. Registered as a Dgroup Member
3. Attended / Commit to attend a True Life Retreat
4. Accomplished the LifeApp form

GLC LEVEL 2

OPEN TO ALL
GLC LEVEL 1 FINISHERS

TRAINS YOU HOW TO START A DGROUP, NURTURE YOUR FAMILY, AND KNOW THE BASIC DOCTRINES OF OUR FAITH.

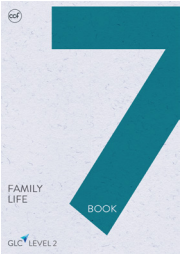


DGROUP 101

Learn about how we grow in a Dgroup that is faithful to Christ's design and is truly transformative.

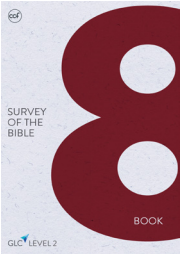
BASIC DOCTRINES

Discover the foundational doctrines behind the Statement of Faith which we believe and profess.



FAMILY LIFE

Be a blessing to your family and lead them to Jesus as you become a Christ-like spouse, sibling, and child.



SURVEY OF THE BIBLE

This module presents an extensive chronological overview of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

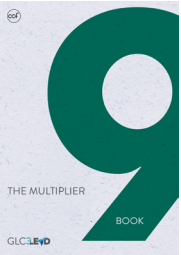
GLC LEVEL 2 COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed all GLC LEVEL 1 requirements
2. Completed Books 5 to 8
3. A Dgroup leader with at least 2 members
4. Accomplished the LifeApp form (signed/attested by Dgroup Leader)

GLC3LEAD

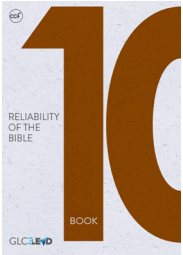
OPEN TO ALL DGROUP LEADERS WITH ACTIVE MEMBERS

TEACHES CCF DGROUP LEADERS HOW TO BETTER MENTOR, COACH, AND EMPOWER THEIR MEMBERS TO START THEIR OWN DGROUP.



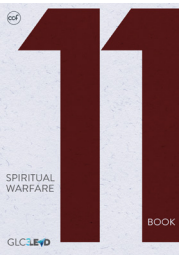
THE MULTIPLIER

Be equipped to lead with Christlike character and multiply leaders for God's glory.



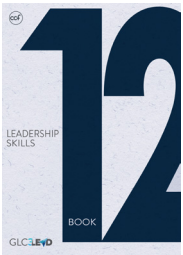
RELIABILITY OF THE BIBLE

Discover why the Bible is truly reliable and examine the historical accuracy of Scripture.



SPIRITUAL WARFARE

This module provides an overview of Biblical principles for winning in Spiritual Warfare.



LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Be equipped to lead others Biblically through mentoring, counseling, conflict resolution, and disciple-making relationships.

GLC3 LEAD COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed GLC LEVEL 1 and GLC LEVEL 2 requirements
2. Completed all sessions of books 9 to 12 *(or its equivalent)*
3. A Dgroup Leader with one timothy, discipling 2 members
4. Accomplished the LifeApp form (signed/attested by Dgroup leader)

WHAT'S A GLC LIFEAPP?

The end goal of discipleship is Christikeness. The Christian life is not a "to-do" list; it is a moment-by-moment loving, relationship with our Heavenly Father. It is a life of faith and obedience as we follow Jesus through the discipleship path He has laid for us.

The GLC training curriculum aims for the life application of God's Word. The Bible-based lessons are not merely for information, but for transformation. Hence, the GLC Life App is intended to ensure we apply what we learn.

Download the GLC LifeApp here:

go.ccf.org.ph/LifeApp

GLC TRAINING PLATFORMS

GLC training is offered through different learning platforms so you can choose which one best suits your needs.

GLC FACE TO FACE CLASSES

Make your “on-the-job” training experience more meaningful by joining face-to-face classes and interacting with GLC teachers and other trainees. Check out your local and international CCF satellites announcements and schedules.

GLC | zoom CLASSES

Be part of a live online class and learn together in the comfort of your own home, office, or anywhere you are in the world. Check out your local and international CCF satellites announcements and schedules.

GLC in DGroups

Learn together with your DGroup members as you meet for fellowship, accountability, and Bible study using GLC resources.

GLC eLEARNING SELF-PACED

Can’t Attend GLC F2F and Zoom Classes? Choose the GLC E-Learning Self-Paced program that is designed to fit your busy schedule. Start your discipleship journey to be equipped on your own time, at your own place, and at your own pace.

WELCOME WEDNESDAYS

Welcome Wednesday is a weekly Bible study community designed for those who want to grow in their Discipleship Journey.

Whether you're just starting your walk with God, asking questions, or wanting to grow deeper, this is a safe and encouraging place for you.

Through our Biblical Foundation Series, you'll learn more about who God is, what it means to follow Him, and be plugged into a Dgroup.

Biblical Foundations First-Timers Bible Study Series

This series is well-suited for those who are taking baby steps in their walk with Christ, or those who are simply curious and have questions about the Christian faith. Discover life-transforming answers from God's Word about the forgiveness of sins, heaven and hell, and the best decision you can ever make in this life and for eternity.

Biblical Foundations Follow-Up Bible Study Series

Examine more closely what you know and believe about the nature of sin and its effects on us; the characteristics of genuine faith in Christ and why salvation is free for us, yet has a very high cost that we cannot even pay for.

Holy Spirit
Discover who the Holy Spirit is and the importance of the Spirit-filled life for every child of God.

Galatians
The Book of Galatians is as relevant to us today as it was to the first Christians and within its pages we find important Biblical truths for the defense of the true gospel.

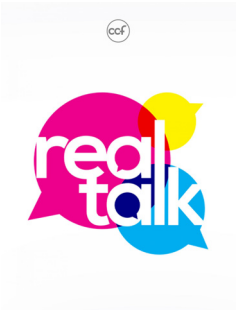
Evangelifestyle
A very important part of our relationship with Jesus is to take part in His mission to reconcile people back to our Heavenly Father. Here you will learn how to pray, care and share the love of Christ to family, friends and even strangers as you go about your daily life.

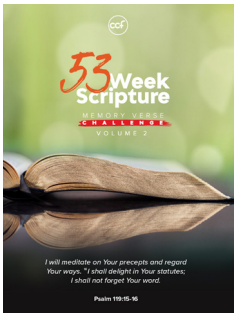
Spiritual Disciplines
Learn about spiritual habits that, when practiced diligently will help you know Jesus more. As you get to know Christ, you will also discover His will for your life through His Word, the Bible.

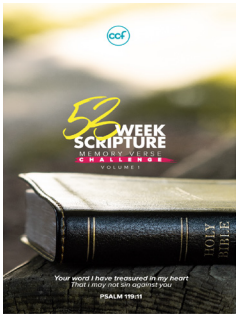
Membership (CCF DNA)
See the big picture of what CCF is all about, discover our God-given mission, vision, and core values. Know how you are uniquely designed take part in this lifetime of faith adventure of fulfilling Christ's Great Commission, and what it means to be a member of God's CCF family.

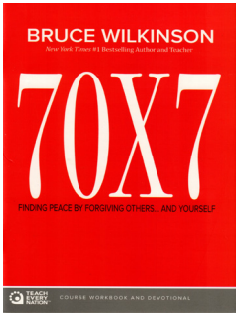
GLC TRAINING

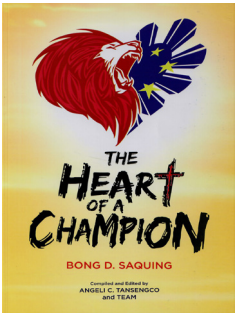
MATERIALS

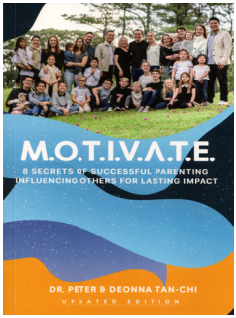












Want to get your own copy of the GLC Books?

You may send your request to **glc@ccf.org.ph,** and our team will gladly assist you with the details.

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INTRODUCTION

Jesus devoted His time to His disciples whom He trained, empowered, and commissioned to make disciples until He comes again. Today, it's our turn to take up this challenge!

Following Jesus' pattern, you have this opportunity to equip yourself with the necessary biblical mindset and leadership skills to mentor and multiply disciples through a Discipleship Group (DGroup). This training module also aims to address common questions, fears, and hesitations you may have as you disciple others in a Dgroup.

HOW TO USE THIS WORKBOOK

This workbook is for the GLC Book 5: Dgroup 101 study. If you are a Dgroup facilitator, please make sure that you do a personal Bible study using this workbook ahead of your Dgroup meeting.

Encourage your group members to have their own workbooks. You may download the PDF version for free at glc.ccf.org.ph. Do not divert from the teaching topic – stick to what is in the workbook.

The workbook includes the Bible lesson, and individual and Dgroup learning activities to help you get the most out of your meetings. There are four parts in every session: Welcome, Talk About It, Apply It and Pray It.

Welcome —

Contains individual and small group activities that help prepare you for the Bible study.

Talk About It —

This is where you go through the Bible lesson with the group. This is also where the members of the group get a chance to express more of their insights, questions, and thoughts about the Bible lesson. They can do it in writing, doodling or drawing, and sharing with the rest of the group.

Pray It —

Suggested prayer points based on the lesson asking for the Lord's grace in applying what has been learned after the study.

This workbook is just a tool. We need to depend on the Holy Spirit to teach us God's truth and transform our hearts as we go through the Bible studies.

So, come and discover the One who will change your life!

Apply It —

This section is accomplished outside the group meeting time. There are suggested individual or group Life Apps that will hopefully help you experience life transformation as you apply God's truth in practical ways.

SESSION ONE

BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS FOR DGROUP MINISTRY

In this session, we lay the foundation for understanding what a Dgroup is and why it matters. We explore the biblical model of discipleship, rooted in Jesus' life and teachings, and the essential role of relationships in spiritual growth.

As we begin this journey, we are reminded that discipleship is not just about programs, but about people — loving God, loving others, and spurring one another on towards Christlikeness.

WELCOME

In groups of 3–5, take some time to share a meaningful experience from being a part of a Dgroup. What challenges have you encountered, and in what ways have these helped you grow in your faith and relationships? Let's encourage one another through our stories.

Your notes here..

Learning Nugget

The Christian life is not meant to be lived alone. God wants us to be with other Christians so we can grow in Christlikeness resulting in greater fruitfulness in His service. Today, we will learn why a Dgroup is important and what is God's purpose for a Dgroup.

DISCIPLE-MAKING

TALK ABOUT IT

Introduction

Disciple-making is the process of _____ to Christ and _____ in the faith toward _____ , for the purpose of _____, resulting in God's glory.

The foundation of a Dgroup is love for Jesus and others as well as to motivate one another to do good works.

Hebrews 10:24-25 states, let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of His return is drawing near.

Our model for disciple-making is **Christ** Himself, and He was present in the lives of His twelve disciples during His earthly ministry.

For us followers of Christ, making disciples is not possible without *meaningful connections*. A Dgroup ministry is all about **life-on-life discipleship!**

WHAT IS A DGROUP?

A DGroup, short for discipleship group, is a small group of people that meets regularly, shares their lives with each other, studies the Bible together, and are accountable to each other, all in the pursuit of becoming more Christ-like for the glory of God.

I. Importance of a Dgroup

A. It is the _____ of the Master
Read Mark 3:14, Acts 4:13

It was what Jesus did. Although Jesus often spoke in public and was followed by multitudes of people wherever He went, He devoted His time mentoring a small group of disciples.

B. It is the _____ of the early church
Read 2 Timothy 2:2, Acts 2:42, 46 *(See also Romans 16:5, 1 Corinthians 16:19, Colossians 4:15, Philippians 1–2).*

It was what the first churches did. During the New Testament times, various groups of followers of Christ regularly meet in homes.

C. It is an _____ way to raise leaders
Read Exodus 18:19-21

In the Old Testament, a wise advice was given by Jethro to Moses to better lead and take care of people.

D. It shows the _____ of Christ in action
Read 1 Peter 4:10, Acts 2:44-46

It provides a close and caring community where people can be honest about struggles and accountable for their actions. In small groups, meaningful relationships are built through attention, care, and giving to meet each other's needs, with leaders setting the example in sharing and being vulnerable.

E. It is a means to reach people _____
Read Acts 2:44-47

A Dgroup breaks religious barriers and is less threatening to non-believers. One way to reach people is to bring the church to where they are instead of inviting them to go to a church. God put people within your sphere of influence to impact them with the gospel and your own testimony to eventually lead them to a personal journey with Jesus.

II. The Fourfold Purpose of Dgroups

A. Purpose #1: Foster a healthy relationship with _____.

Read John 15:5

Ultimately, the goal is Christlikeness—to become more like Jesus and do what He has done. Followers of Christ must take necessary steps to ensure a constant, growing relationship with God, making it the number one priority; otherwise, living for Him becomes tiresome.

**Read Appendix D Connect with The Vine*

Ultimately, the goal of discipleship is ***Christlikeness***— becoming ***more like Jesus*** and doing what Jesus commands *(obedience).*

It is important for followers of Christ to take the *necessary steps* to ensure ***a constant and growing relationship*** with God, this is our *highest priority!*

B. Purpose #2: Foster healthy relationships with other _____.

Unlike today's 'DIY' (do- it-yourself) notion of spiritual growth, the early believers grew in their faith by ***spending time together,*** not being alone by themselves.

Read Hebrews 10:24-25 (See also 1 Peter 4:9)

24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, 25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Discipleship in the context of community means more than just studying the Bible. It's about sharing life together, including meals, fun, and challenges—to build caring relationships (1 Peter 4:9). Being part of a Dgroup involves sharing with those in need (Acts 2:44) and having genuine relationships you can rely on.

C. Purpose #3: Fulfill God's _____ of evangelism and discipleship.

Read Matthew 28:19-20, John 13:35

Jesus said, "People will know that you are My disciples if you love one another." Small groups are not just social clubs but communities on a mission—pointing others to Christ by praying, caring, and sharing the gospel. Being in a Dgroup nurtures our growth and equips us to fulfill the mandate to "make disciples of all nations."

Jesus left the apostles not only a mandate but also a **model for nurturing and making disciples (small group discipleship).** The early church did both in their lives.

To fulfill God's mission of evangelism and discipleship is to live beyond ourselves, sharing the gospel, walking with others in faith, and equipping them to multiply the work of Christ.

D. Purpose #4: Fulfill God's _____ to service and ministry.

Read Ephesians 4:11-13

God has given each of us a unique role in His kingdom. Ephesians 4:11-13 shows that leaders equip believers, and believers build up the body of Christ. Serving is how we mature in faith and help others do the same. As we respond to God's call to ministry, we grow together toward Christlike unity and fullness.

TO SERVE, NOT TO BE SERVED: THE DISCIPLESHIP JESUS MODELED

Before returning to heaven, Jesus prayed for His disciples (John 17:15-19). Servanthood was the heart of His ministry, as shown by how He left His heavenly abode to give Himself to His disciples on earth (Philippians 2:7, Mark 10:45). Likewise, the early church understood they were saved to serve, earning "the favor of all the people" (Acts 2:47).

Their sacrificial love extended beyond their own community. Historical records show they lived out being Good Samaritans to all (Galatians 6:10, Hebrews 13:2). Even the Roman Emperor Julian admitted that "Christians feed not only their poor but ours also," unlike the pagans who did not help even their own.

Through the centuries, followers of Christ have continued this call to sacrificial service. As Mark Greene noted in his tribute to Queen Elizabeth II:

"...sacrifice is at the heart of the gospel – Jesus giving his life for ours. And it is at the heart of our own discipleship... We no longer live for ourselves but for God and others."

Queen Elizabeth herself said in 2012:

"This is the time of the year when we remember that God sent His only Son 'to serve, not to be served.' He restored love and service to the centre of our lives in the person of Jesus Christ."

Source: https://licc.org.uk/resources/obituary-queen-elizabeth-ii-beacon-of-grace/. Accessed on September 15, 2022, 15:38 GMT+8

GROUP DISCUSSION

Based on the fourfold purpose of small groups, describe how your Dgroup has fulfilled each purpose within the past 12 months. Briefly explain by using the guide questions below:

1. What specific Dgroup practices did you have that helped you build a healthy relationship with God?

2. What specific Dgroup practices helped you build a healthy relationship with other believers, especially those from your small group?

3. As a Dgroup, in what ways have you fulfilled God's mission of evangelism and discipleship or God's call to service and ministry?

Purpose # 1: Foster a healthy relationship with God	Purpose # 2: Foster healthy relationships with other believers
Purpose # 3: Fulfill God's mission of evangelism and discipleship	Purpose # 4: Fulfill God's call to service and ministry

APPLY IT

For Dgroup Members

Take time and effort to appreciate your Dgroup leader in the areas where your Dgroup has consistently fulfilled its purpose.

Share some specific examples of how you have benefited as a result of these four purposes being accomplished in your Dgroup. Write a note, text a personal message, or do some other act of appreciation for your spiritual leader to encourage him/her in the fulfillment of the fourfold purpose of a Dgroup ministry.

For Dgroup Leaders

If you are leading a Dgroup, evaluate how well your group is doing in terms of fulfilling the fourfold purpose of Dgroups. Use the chart in the Group Discussion section for this exercise. Have your Dgroup members help you evaluate the health of your Dgroup. Have them do the Dgroup evaluation found in Appendix C.

a. In what areas are you consistently fulfilling a Dgroup ministry's purpose? How can you continue doing this in new and fresh ways?

b. In what areas do you need to improve in terms of the fourfold purpose of a Dgroup? Outline a specific plan you will do to improve in those areas (S.M.A.R.T plan).

c. Share these action steps with your Dmembers in your next meeting. Involve them in making sure that your Dgroup becomes more consistent in fulfilling all the purposes of a discipleship group.

PRAY IT

We come before You, our loving Heavenly Father to pray for all of us who have received Your call to fulfill the Great Commission of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Empower us with the Holy Spirit to accomplish our part in making disciples of all the nations.

Thank You that we have solid Biblical foundations that we can build our Dgroups on. We commit ourselves today to obey and apply the things we have learned through this lesson.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

SESSION TWO

READINESS AND ROLES OF A DGROUP LEADER

Stepping into the role of a Dgroup leader is more than just taking on a position or a title. It's embracing the calling to walk alongside others in their discipleship journey being present, intentional, and committed to helping them grow in their relationship with Christ.

This responsibility isn't about perfection, but about being a living example of surrender, humility, and obedience to God. As you guide others, your own walk with Jesus will be both tested and strengthened. In this journey, Christlikeness isn't just the goal for those you lead; it begins with you.

WELCOME

Who wears this hat?

In a group of 3-5 people, answer in the blanks provided who wears the hat or head gear and discuss what they do based on the hat they're wearing.

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____

See Answer Key for the answers on page 94.

Learning Nugget

During a time when everyone wore hats, many of those hats were specific to a given trade, position, or function. So, someone who had several roles would have several hats and would wear the appropriate one for an occasion.

If you are leading a Dgroup, expect that you will be wearing multiple hats. This means handling different roles at one time when doing life-on-life Discipleship. If you desire to lead a Dgroup, your hat might just determine the sphere of influence where you could possibly start a Dgroup.

DGROUP LEADER'S ROLES

TALK ABOUT IT

Being a Dgroup leader is a life-on-life endeavor resulting to Christlikeness.

You will accomplish different roles as Dgroup members look to you for godly guidance and direction. As we model Christ-like character and behavior to them, they too, will learn to live a life fully surrendered to the will of the Father.

You must keep subjecting your personal paradigms and principles of leadership to the model of Jesus Christ in the Scriptures. It may sound almost impossible, but it is possible with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Let's take a look at both the "readiness" that a new Dgroup leader should aspire for and the "roles" that they eventually must take on as they lead.

I. READINESS OF A DGROUP LEADER

What are the basic qualities we need to see in a potential Dgroup leader?

The basic qualification of a CCF Dgroup Leader is to be _____.

FAITHFUL

- A Dleader has a heart for God.
- Someone who seeks God regularly for direction in life and eager to follow the clear will of God.
- Someone who is faithful in performing the responsibilities given to him or her, whether ministry or work.

ACCOUNTABLE

- A Dleader must be available and willing to make time for life-on-life discipleship and responds positively to godly counsel and Biblical wisdom.
- There is evident openness and transparency in various areas of life, willing to be corrected and makes actual changes.
- He or she submits to God-given authorities with respect and a positive attitude.

AVAILABLE

• A Dgroup leader has set aside time to serve. He knows His priorities. Someone who is faithful in performing the responsibilities given to him or her, whether ministry or work.

TEACHABLE

• Someone who demonstrates submission to God's Word, walks in obedience to God, evidenced by growth towards Christlikeness.
• Should display consistent humility, willingly accepts criticism, correction, and suggestions.

FREE FROM BONDAGE TO SIN

• Not willfully sinning or not engaging in activities that lead to eventual sin/compromise.
• Has the moral authority to impart God's Word to others.
• Observable disciplines and practice to safeguard from possible compromises.

FREE FROM DEBILITATING OR UNMANAGED DEBT

• Does not have unmanaged or debilitating debt.
• Practices faithful stewardship over personal or business finances.
• Does not engage in business transactions within the Dgroup. No loans or debts between Dgroup members or Dgroup leader.

HOW'S YOUR READINESS TO TAKE ON THE ROLES OF A DGROUP LEADER?

How FAAT FREE are you now?

Rate yourself on a scale of 1-5 by shading the number, 1 as the lowest and 5 as the highest.

FAITHFUL

1 2 3 4 5

ACCOUNTABLE

1 2 3 4 5

AVAILABLE

1 2 3 4 5

TEACHABLE

1 2 3 4 5

FREE FROM BONDAGE TO SIN

1 2 3 4 5

FREE FROM DEBILITATING OR UNMANAGED DEBT

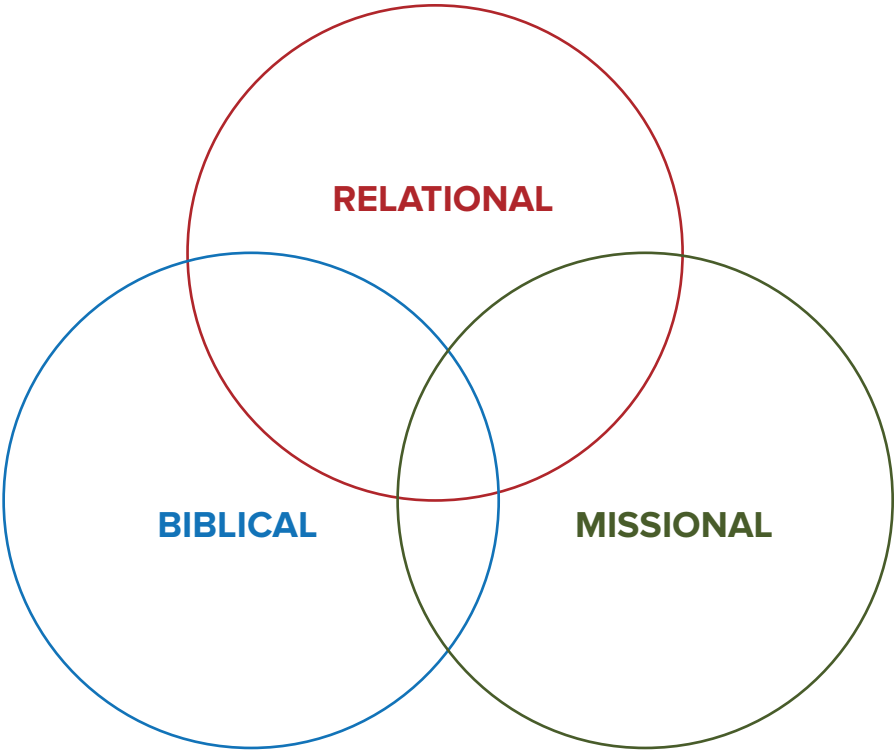
1 2 3 4 5

II. ROLES OF A DGROUP LEADER

Leading a Dgroup is “life-on-life” discipleship work. The primary goal of discipleship is Christlike character to be formed in the Dgroup leader (discipler) and the Dgroup members (disciples).

LIFE-ON-LIFE DISCIPLESHIP

Framework of Life-on-Life Discipleship



A. _____ Discipleship based on Christ's love

Read John 13:34-35

1. Principle: Jesus taught His disciples to _____ one another.

Jesus said I am giving you a new commandment. Why is it a new commandment? He is raising the standard for them when it comes to relationships. He commands them to love one another just as He loved them.

Characteristics of Christ's love

Read Romans 5:6-8 | Read Philippians 2:1-4 | Read 1 John 3:16

a. unconditional

b. selfless

c. sacrificial

2. Key roles of a Dgroup Leader

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:7, 11

a. _____

Paul described himself and the other apostles as a mother and a father to the believers. Likewise, as a Dgroup leader, you too serve as a spiritual parent to your members.

Read John 10:14-15

b. _____

We find our greatest example of a good shepherd or Dgroup leader in Jesus Christ. He knows each member of His flock and cares for them.

Jesus built deep relationships with His disciples. He knew them very well (v.14).

Your notes here..

3. Tips and Tools

Set expectations

• Orient them on CCF's Discipleship Journey (page 36) and the Discipleship Covenant (page 81).

Nurture close relationships

• Call or meet them one-on-one
• Engage in activities together
• Invite them to your home
• Consider them as your accountability to God
• Seek to bring out the best in each one
• Provide direction
• Be prepared to defend against the Enemy; pray
• Reach out/check in unexpectedly
• Create ministry opportunities for them
• Listen well without immediately offering advice
• Be honest about your own struggles
• Know their love language
• Show up during important milestones in their lives
• Celebrate small wins
• Ask heart-level questions

People don't care how much you know, until they know how much you care.

- John Maxwell

RELATIONSHIP CHECK-IN

Discipleship is about being relational.
Jesus didn't just teach, He walked closely with His disciples. As you lead others, check in with your relationships. Are you nurturing them well? Are expectations clear?

Using the table below, list 2–3 people you're discipling or plan to disciple. Reflect on how you can be more intentional with each one this week.

Name	Last 1-on-1	How can I nurture the relationship?	Truth that I can share

B. _____ Discipleship built upon God's Word

Read Matthew 7:24

1. Principle: Jesus taught His disciples to live in _____ to God's Word.

The "why" and "how" as you lead a Dgroup must be founded and built on God's Word. It is not enough just to hear God's Word; one must also obey it. Obedience to God's Word distinguishes a wise man from the foolish one.

2. Key role of a Dgroup Leader

Read 1 Corinthians 3:10

_____

A Dgroup leader should build up his/her members in God's Word and unto good works.

3. Tips and Tools

Facilitate learning by encouraging them to undergo and complete their GLC 1, GLC 2 and GLC3 LEAD training levels.

- In-Person (Face-to-Face) Classes
- Zoom Classes
- GLC in DGroups
- GLC E-Learning (self-paced)

Help them develop spiritual disciplines.

Examples:

- Read through the Bible - Use a Bible Reading Plan
- Memorize Bible verses - Use the 53-Week Scripture Memory Verse Guide
- Participate in prayer and fasting
- Maximize one-on-one times for accountability
- Check if their theology (what they believe in) matches their practice
- Monitor progress or steps of obedience in their problem areas
- Always point them back to God's Word

AIM FOR A **TRANSFORMED HEART,**
NOT JUST MODIFIED BEHAVIORS.

Your notes here..

C. _____ Discipleship borne out of spiritual empowerment

Read Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8

1. Principle: Jesus taught His disciples to fulfill the _____.

Just before Jesus ascended, His last words to the disciples were that the Holy Spirit will come and empower them to carry out the mission of being a witness and making disciples of all nations.

2. Key roles of a Dgroup Leader

Read 2 Timothy 2:3-4

a. _____

The Christian life is like a battlefield, and so is being a Dgroup leader. You have a mission to fulfill. It is not always easy but remember that the One who called and enlisted you will also enable you.

Read Mark 10:42-45

b. _____

The Dgroup leader's mindset should be to serve and not to be served.

3. Tips and Tools

Cast the vision of making disciples to them.
• Practice Pray, Care, Share
• Equip and empower them to disciple others leading to generations of disciples

Identify and help them exercise their spiritual gifts, talents, and skills.
• Motivate them to serve their families, the Dgroup
• Introduce them to ministries
• Follow through on commitments they made

Go the extra mile to serve them.
• Walk alongside them in their struggles and difficulties
• Celebrate their victories and milestones

We have seen how the three aspects of life-on-life discipleship—the Relational, Biblical, and Missional are needed to be present in our Dgroup ministry to bring about the desired outcome: **Christlikeness** in **Christ-committed followers!**

Your notes here..

GROUP DISCUSSION

How will you improve on the three spheres of life-on-life discipleship?

a. Relational

• **Dleader:** How will you help your Dgroup members build strong, loving relationships?

• **Dmember:** What can you do to help build strong, loving relationships in your Dgroup?

b. Biblical

• **Dleader:** How will you help your Dgroup members learn and apply the Bible in their lives?

• **Dmember:** How can you better learn and apply the Bible in your Dgroup?

c. Missional

• **Dleader:** How will you help your Dgroup members share their faith and serve others?

• **Dmember:** How can you participate in sharing your faith and serving others with your Dgroup and others?

APPLY IT

Read and study Bible verses in Appendix A that show how Jesus built relationships with His disciples.

For Dgroup leaders:

1. What are the two ways of building relationships that you already practice?

2. Choose two ways that you will apply to your own Dgroup. You may also come up with other creative ways to build relationships with your Dgroup members. Check the boxes that correspond to your answers below:

TIME

- ☐ Call or send a message: *"How are you? How can I pray for you?"*
- ☐ Be there for important events *(birthday, wedding, child dedication, sickness, death in family)*
- ☐ Schedule rotating one-on-one meetings *(30-60 minutes before your Dgroup time)*
- ☐ Go out on a Prayer Day as a group. Do "stuff" together *(hiking, biking, travel)*

HOSPITALITY

- [ ] Invite them to your home
- [ ] Visit them at their home (bring food)
- [ ] Discover their gifts, talents, aspirations, as well as their fears, areas for improvement
- [ ] Get to know their spouse, children, parents, siblings
- [ ] Visit the Dgroup of 2nd and 3rd generations

ACCOUNTABILITY

- [ ] Be vulnerable and share your struggles and failures with them.
- [ ] Ask them "How can I improve?"
- [ ] Do not be afraid to lovingly tell people how they can improve *(personal quiet time, sexual purity, addiction, spending habits, submission to authorities, temper etc.).* Remember: "Speak the truth in love."

KNOW THEM WELL

- [ ] Challenge them to disciple just one person within their sphere of influence
- [ ] Always ask yourself, "Who should I bring along as I minister?" *(Child dedication, hospital visitation, wake)*
- [ ] Serve with them in ministry (NXTGen, Welcome Ministry, Host Team, etc.)
- [ ] Let them lead prayer, lead worship, or facilitate in your small group, even organizing bridging event

MODELING

- [ ] Love for spouse, family; honoring parents
- [ ] Prayer and fasting
- [ ] Intimacy with God
- [ ] Authenticity, consistent lifestyle
- [ ] Evangelism
- [ ] Work excellence
- [ ] Response to problems

LOVE

- [ ] See them as God sees them; their potential in Christ, not their current state
- [ ] Reconcile strained relationships
- [ ] "LOVE" = an unconditional commitment towards imperfect people, desiring their highest good, which often requires sacrifice
- [ ] Exercise patience

Source: Material from IDC 2020 Discipleship Non-negotiables Workshop

For Dmembers:

1. From the list, what are the two ways you are already practicing in your Dgroup as you build relationship with each other?

2. What impact have these actions had on your relationships and the Dgroup?

PRAY IT

Dgroup Members:

Lord, as I think about leading a Dgroup, I know I'll need to do many things, care for everyone like a good shepherd, teach God's Word, help others understand it, and encourage them to share Your love with others.

Give me wisdom, patience, and Your help to do these things well. Help me build strong friendships with my Dgroup members, just like You did with Your disciples. Help me listen carefully, encourage them, and gently guide them.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Dgroup Leaders:

Lord, help me remember that being a Dgroup leader is a life-on-life endeavor, not just hosting weekly meetings.

Guide me to model Christlikeness to my dgroup members so they can learn to surrender to Your will. Help me to constantly align my leadership with Your model in the Scriptures, even though it may seem difficult. With the Holy Spirit's help, I know this is possible.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

SESSION THREE

HOW TO START AND FACILITATE A DGROUP

Starting a Dgroup isn't just about gathering people, it's about building a Christ-centered community where lives are transformed through discipleship.

As you take the step to lead others, it's essential to begin with the right heart, the right focus, and the right foundation. This part of your discipleship journey involves more than starting well; it requires sustaining your dgroup with intentional care, avoiding common pitfalls, and continually pointing others to Jesus.

Whether you're just beginning or looking to lead more effectively, as you walk with Jesus, you'll learn how to start and strengthen a Dgroup that honors God and bears lasting fruit.

WELCOME

Have you ever planned a trip, an event, or even just a get-together? What was the hardest part in getting people to join, keeping them engaged, or making sure they showed up again for your next event?

Learning Nugget

To be successful in any endeavor it requires proper planning and implementation. It does not happen overnight. Even more so learning how to disciple others in a Dgroup. Discipleship is a constant process of dependence and trust on God in the growth of your members. In this lesson, we learn about how to start and sustain a Dgroup.

LEAD WITH LOVE

TALK ABOUT IT

I. HOW TO PROPERLY START A DGROUP

A. Make _____ your starting point

Read John 17:9,20-21.

Opening a person's heart is always the work of the Spirit as much as salvation is solely the work of God. It is very important, then, to seek the Lord's guidance in prayer and His power to be at work.

Action Point:

• Pray to the Lord and list down names of people with whom you can do "Pray-Care-Share," and lead to a relationship with Christ

For more on this, read the article "Connecting with the Vine". (Appendix D)

B. Make a difference in _____

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:8; Acts 1:8

Only love can soften the hardest hearts. As Paul shared not just the gospel but his life (1 Thessalonians 2:8), we too witness Christ's love through genuine care and compassion in tangible ways.

Action Point:

• Think of ideas on how to do acts of **genuine** kindness to the people you are praying for.

C. Make sharing the Good News a _____

Read Romans 10:14

Always be ready for opportunities where you could briefly present the Gospel.

Action Point:

• Always be ready for opportunities where you could share your salvation testimony and a brief presentation of the Gospel.
• We recommend the "One Minute Witness" for your testimony and "Best Decision" for the Gospel.

D. Make the Dgroup your _____ for multiplication

Read 2 Timothy 2:2

The passion to share the Gospel to individuals should come with an equal desire to integrate them with the fellowship of God's people. Once you start doing personal evangelism with several people, the next step is to disciple them in the context of a Dgroup. As more people are brought to you by the Lord to disciple, the Dgroup would be the ideal structure for spiritual growth and maturity.

Action Point:

• Review the names of those with whom you have had shared your testimony and the Gospel. Arrange for a follow-up meeting at a specific place and time.
• Follow up within 48 hours after Pray, Care, Share
• Say, "I have a simple material that can help you grow in your spiritual journey. Would you like to go through it together?"

Your notes here..

Start forming your Dgroup today!

List down at least three people you've shared the gospel with (from your GLC Level 1 Life App), or those God has placed in your heart to disciple. Begin praying for them regularly, and take the next step: invite them into a Dgroup where you can grow together in Christ.

Name:

I will pray for them about: _____

My next step: _____

Name:

I will pray for them about: _____

My next step: _____

Name:

I will pray for them about: _____

My next step: _____

Submit this to your Dgroup leader for accountability.

II. HOW TO FACILITATE A DGROUP MEETING

Preparing for a Dgroup Meeting

Read Hebrews 10:25

Our Dgroup meetings should help the members become disciples (Christ-committed followers). Therefore, the first thing that a Dgroup leader will do is to prepare for each meeting. This is the key to the success of every meeting. There are several things that a leader needs to prepare.

A. _____

Read Proverbs 21:5

Experiencing success in leading a Dgroup needs careful planning, especially if you are just starting out. As a leader you should plan among other things: the food (if you're the host), the date, the venue, the people attending, and the lesson.

B. _____

Preparing in advance for every meeting is crucial to the success of every Dgroup meeting. You need to prepare for some important things.

1. Know your _____

Here in CCF, we made leading a Dgroup very easy for the leaders. We have prepared easy-to-use materials(Books 1-12, 4Ws, etc.) for your convenience. If you have gone through these materials in your Dgroup or in our GLC classes, then you will not have any problem as to what material you will use. The materials are complete with the objective and what you want them to learn and apply in their lives.

2. Know your _____

For first-time Dgroup leaders, you may have no prior knowledge as to who the people God will bring into your group.

- Who are in your group and what is their background?
- Do they like sharing or do they need prompting?
- Are they spiritually mature or need much explanation?
- What is their learning style? Do they need visual tools or more on auditory?

You need to know where they are coming from and how you should be able to approach and relate to them. As a Dgroup leader you need to be intentional in knowing your members. You can get to know them better by having one-on-one informal chats or meetings over meals or coffee, or any get-to-know activities that you will do together as a group.

3. Know your _____

The place, location and physical environment must be conducive to learning and must contribute to the goals of the Dgroup meeting.

Common Dgroup Venues:

- Homes
- Church grounds
- Restaurants and coffee shops

For Online Dgroups

- Know what app is best for your group – zoom, messenger, viber, etc.
- Make sure you have a good internet connection or have enough data so everyone can open their cameras
- Find a good spot with ample lighting, less noise, and neat background
- Wear appropriate clothing

III. DGROUP LEADER AS FACILITATOR

The Dleader must remember his/her responsibilities of helping the members learn God's word from each other and in general, making the discussions fruitful, meaningful and transformative for everyone in the group.

A. He uses his skill of drawing every member to _____ a particular topic, leading to a Godly perspective and response from each participant.

Everyone that comes to the meeting must be able to contribute and participate in the discussions. The leader facilitates the whole equipping and learning process, making sure the discussion will not go off-track or drift away.

B. A facilitator is simply another _____ of the group who is helping to make the discussion happen.

He does not feel and act as if he is in any way superior in status, authority and worth from his Dgroup members. He does not "lord over" his Dgroup members but rather shows love, acceptance and humility towards them.

He is a servant leader whose purpose is to disciple his Dgroup members to become like Christ. He shows it in the way he leads the group and facilitates the discussions.

C. He looks for _____, not answers. He asks what the person thinks or feels.

The facilitator seeks for the insights of others not just ready canned answers. As much as possible, he solicits their ideas, insights and reflections to find out where Dmembers are coming from, what their reactions are and what is really going on in their lives.

An exception to this would be during Bible studies when you are looking for the correct understanding and interpretation of God's Word using sound Bible study principles.

Dgroup leaders need to guide the discussion to make sure that the Dgroup members are not merely giving personal opinions on the topic being discussed but are sourcing their answers from what God says in the Bible.

Your notes here..

D. He is a learner. He doesn't _____ his own ideas.

When the Dgroup gathers together, it is always for mutual edification. The Dgroup leader acts as a facilitator but he is not the only source of learning. The leader learns together with his fellow brothers and sisters in the group. The leader listens and learns from the others.

E. He _____ and asks for applications.

The facilitator summarizes what the group has said. Summarizing after a series of questions allow the leader to acknowledge group members' contributions.

The goal of the Dgroup Bible study is not just information but transformation. He should conclude each discussion by asking each one for a practical application. It must be personal, specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time bound (S.M.A.R.T.).

IV. GUIDELINES FOR FACILITATING A PRODUCTIVE DISCUSSION

Read Ephesians 4:29

Much of what happens in a small group is a discussion about the truths of the Bible as it is applied in the lives of the members. For our discussions to be productive, we need to employ several principles and skills.

A. Teaching vs. Facilitating

You may have many hesitations and fears that hinder you from leading a Dgroup. You might think that you are not qualified to lead a Dgroup because you are not a good teacher. But leading a Dgroup is more of facilitating rather than teaching.

TEACHING	FACILITATING
Teacher-centered	Participant-centered
Teacher provides most of the ideas	Facilitator draws ideas from participants
Teacher is the subject matter expert	Facilitator is the process (facilitation) expert
Teacher does most of the talking, while participants take down notes.	Participants do most of the talking, facilitator keeps discussions focused and alive.
Teacher is more concerned with effectiveness of delivery and content	Facilitator is more concerned about the management of group discussions and learning

B. Explain the CCF's Discipleship Covenant.

First, explain to the members that the Dgroup has values and principles that the members will adhere to. Each member is expected to abide by the CCF Discipleship Covenant with the acronym C.H.R.I.S.T.

Your notes here..

CCF Discipleship Covenant

Confidentiality

I will not gossip about fellow members, and will ensure that what is shared in the group stays in the group.

A gossip goes around spreading rumors, while a trustworthy man tries to quiet them (Proverbs 11:13)

Honesty

I will be open and honest with my Dgroup leader and fellow members.

The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in men who are truthful. (Proverbs 12:22)

Respect

I will respect those in my Dgroup by attending meetings regularly and punctually and by honoring the authority of my leader.

Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you. (Hebrews 13:17)

Intercession

I will pray regularly for my Dgroup leader and fellow members.

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. (Ephesians 6:18)

Spiritual Growth

I'm here to grow spiritually and help others, so I won't use this group for business, borrowing money, or any personal gain.

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Timothies

I will have it as my goal to eventually build my own Dgroup.

And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others. (2 Timothy 2:2)

C. Be an active listener. Ask the right questions.

Read James 1:19

Active listening involves not only what you hear verbally, but also what you can observe non-verbally. This means that you are actively engaging with the person who is speaking, setting aside your personal agenda, and keeping yourself from distracting thoughts (particularly thinking about what you are going to say next!).

Your notes here..

Tips for Active Listening

1. What you hear verbally

It refers to the content of what is said. We must avoid being so interested in what we are about to say that we fail to hear the simple facts in a discussion.

As you listen, focus on what your Dgroup member has shared or talked about such as events, dates, and other specific information that is being revealed to the group.

2. What you hear non-verbally

In active listening, it is important to observe how your Dgroup members expressed the content. In other words, you must watch out for the consistency of what they said and the accompanying actions. Do the nonverbal messages match the verbal messages? Listen for this in three areas:

- Facial expressions - When your Dgroup member says, “I’m okay,” does his/her facial expression actually communicate “I’m a little sad”?
- Tone of voice - Listen for tones of sarcasm, anger, sadness, enthusiasm, hesitancy, fear, etc.
- Body movements and posture - Are arms and legs crossed and closed?

Leading Life-Changing Small Groups Bill Donahue and the Willow Creek Small groups team
Copyright © 1996, 2002 by the Willow Creek Association 2 Ibid. 3 Ibid.

Types of questions to ask

1. Open-ended questions

Open-ended questions cannot be answered with a simple "yes" or "no," nor can they be answered by supplying a fact. Open-ended questions encourage participants to supply ideas, opinions, reactions, or information.

- Why: Why did Jesus say that?
- What: What does the verse say? What does it mean?
- How: How does it apply?

2. Greater response questions

The list below provides the kinds of greater response questions and their respective examples.

- Describe: (*Ex. Describe the man's condition in Ephesians 2:1-3)*
- Summarize: *(Ex. Summarize the relationship of the vine to the branches in John 15)*
- Explain: *(Ex. Who can explain the relationship of the branches to the vine (John 15)? Can you now explain the relationship of a Christian to Jesus?)*
- Exploratory: *(Ex. What else did you discover about God in the passage?)*

- Redirection Questions: *(Ex. What do you think, Lemuel? What do you feel, Paolo?)*

- Feedback and Clarification Questions: *(Ex. Who can paraphrase our position? Will someone summarize what we have discussed so far? If I heard you right, you are saying?)*

THE KEY TO EFFECTIVE QUESTIONING IN A DGROUP IS KNOWING HOW TO *ASK THE RIGHT KIND OF QUESTIONS.*

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D. RESPONDING APPROPRIATELY TO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Read Colossians 4:6

Our speech should be kind and courteous (gracious), is interesting, invites interaction (as opposed to refusing to listen and discuss), adds “spice” to a discussion (by penetrating to deeper levels), and is pure and wholesome. Believers should always be ready to answer questions about their faith and be ready to share words of personal testimony.

How to Respond

KKK: Kiss, Kick, Kiss

It is also known as the sandwich approach. You can start off with a positive praise in order to encourage the person first for asking the question. Then after correcting him gently or giving the right answer, you can seal it with another positive remark.

You can simply reiterate the initial positive compliment you had given him. Or you can speak in general terms about how much you appreciate their questions and comments or you can compliment them on their receptiveness to receiving constructive criticism.

V. HANDLING DIFFICULT DGROUP MEMBERS

Read Ephesians 4:2

One of the great challenges in leading a Dgroup is how to handle difficult persons in your group. Remember that you and your Dgroup members are not perfect but God chose you, and will use you to disciple them towards Christlikeness.

TYPE OF DIFFICULT PERSONS	RESPONSE
Heckler (Magulo/Makulit)	Recognize the contribution, then refocus the discussion. Ask the group to respond to his idea or statement.
Rambler (Ma-istorya)	When there is a pause or break, thank him and refocus. Set rules on discussion time and quorum.
Know-it-All (Feeling Genius)	Use him as a resource, but suggest that we generate ideas from the others first. Give him a listening role and capitalize on his enthusiasm.
Conversationalist (Ma-chika)	Ask him for ideas and share it to the group.

When it is necessary, you can talk to the person gently and with love privately. You can ask him/her to help you make the discussions more beneficial to everybody by pointing out what needs to be done without making it appear that you are attacking him/her personally. It is also very important to always pray for them.

Difficult people may test your patience, but as you faithfully minister to them, they shape your character, sharpen your skills, and help you grow spiritually.

Note: we also encourage you to read "Appendix B: Resolving Common Issues" to help you effectively facilitate and address any challenges that may arise in our Dgroup.

GROUP DISCUSSION

For Dgroup Members/Timothies:
As a result of what I have learned today, what area should I strengthen as I plan to start my dgroup?

For Dgroup leaders:
As a result of what I have learned today, what area should I strengthen as I continue to facilitate a dgroup meeting?

APPLY IT

1. Choose one or two roles of a facilitator that you will hone or practice more in your next Dgroup meeting.

2. Intentionally apply one guideline for facilitating a productive discussion in your next Dgroup meeting. Take note of the quality of interaction and engagement of your Dmembers. Did you see a noticeable difference from before?

PRAY IT

Dear Heavenly Father, I praise You for how good and loving You are, that in Your grace, You have given us the highest privilege and great responsibility of making disciples. Empower me with Your Holy Spirit as I facilitate our Dgroup meetings, so that we may learn from the Bible more, and grow to love Jesus and each other more.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Book 6: Basic Doctrines

As you prepare to disciple others in a small group, you will need to form deeply rooted biblical convictions on matters of the Christian faith. This will not only benefit your future (or current) disciples, but just as important, you will benefit greatly from a study of the basic biblical doctrines of your faith in Christ.

Book 6: Basic Doctrines will take you through an examination of the CCF Statement of Faith--its biblical basis and practical application in your walk with God. As Christ-committed followers, we do not only need to have biblical convictions, we also need to know WHY we believe what we believe or teach what we teach.

See you in the next part of your journey as you continue to Book 6: Basic Doctrines.

ANSWER KEY

SESSION 1

Disciple Making
bringing people
building them up
Christlikeness
spiritual multiplication

I. Importance of a Dgroup
A. model
B. pattern
C. ancient
D. body
E. where they are

II. The Fourfold Purpose of Dgroups
A. God
B. believers
C. mission
D. call

SESSION 2 WELCOME ACTIVITY

HAT (Head covering)	WHO WEARS IT	WHAT HE/SHE DOES
	Nurse	Cares for the sick or injured people
	Chef	Prepares food for people to eat
	Swimmer	Competes in pool swimming competitions
	Astronaut	Travels in a spacecraft into outer space
	Call Center Agent	Handles incoming or outgoing customer calls for a business

SESSION 2

I. Readiness of a Dgroup Leader
A CCF Dgroup leader is to be FAAT – FREE

II. Roles of a Dgroup Leader II. Roles of a Dgroup Leader
A. Relational

Love
Key Role of a Dgroup Leader
a. parent
b. shepherd

B. Biblical

obedience
Key Role of a Dgroup Leader
a. builder

C. Missional

1. great commission
2. Key Role of a Dgroup Leader
a. soldier
b. servant

SESSION 3

I. How to properly start a Dgroup

A. prayer
B. people's lives
C. lifestyle
D. primary strategy

II. How to facilitate a Dgroup meeting

A. planning
B. preparation

1. material
2. people
3. venue

III. Dgroup Leader as Facilitator

A. actively discusses
B. member
C. personal insights
D. force
E. summarizes

APPENDIX A:

HOW DID JESUS BUILD RELATIONSHIPS?

BIBLE REFERENCES

Bible references for HOW DID JESUS BUILD RELATIONSHIPS?

1. TIME

MARK 6:30-32

2. VISITS

JOHN 1:37-39

MATTHEW 8:14-15

3. ACCOUNTABILITY

MATTHEW 14:30-31

MATTHEW 16:22-23

MATTHEW 26:36-38

4. RESPONSIBILITIES

MARK 6:37-43

5. MODELING

JOHN 13:12-15

MARK 1:35-37

6. LOVE

JOHN 21:15

JOHN 13:34-35

APPENDIX B

RESOLVING COMMON ISSUES

I. COMMON DGROUP PROBLEMS

> **Careful troubleshooting and honest evaluation set the stage for wise leadership decisions.**
>
> *- BILL DONAHUE and RUSS ROBINSON*
> *The Seven Deadly Sins of Small Group Ministry*

Here is a basic troubleshooting guide to help you diagnose common Dgroup problems and some simple yet practical solutions.

A. More and more members are coming late.

Root Cause:	It is becoming a group pattern to wait for other members and start late.
Possible Solutions:	Inform members meet-up schedule, venue, and even topic so they can prepare in advance. Stick to the schedule so the members can develop discipline in coming on time.

B. There are quiet members who don't participate in the discussion.

Root Cause:	• Questions asked are either too hard or too easy. • Members are not really prepared for the discussion. • There is lack of trust within the group.
Possible Solutions:	Allow time for people to think. Ask verbal members to give chance for quieter members to speak. Encourage quiet members by letting them read Scripture aloud. Go around the group so everyone can respond.

C. There is an overly talkative member.

Root Cause: The person is naturally outgoing, does not like silence, and sees things quickly.

Possible Solutions: Speak with the person privately. Ask for his help in drawing out responses from the group. Sit beside the talkative member rather than far from them.

D. Sharing in the group discussion is superficial.

Root Cause:
- The leader is not setting an example of authenticity and openness.
- There are integrity problems among the members.
- The applications made are not specific enough to elicit concrete responses.

Possible Solutions: Be open and specific in your own sharing as a leader of the group. Have one-to-one with your member outside the group for sharing and prayer.

E. The pace of discussion in the group is either too slow or too fast.

Root Cause: Too much time is spent on some activities of the group meeting.

Possible Solutions: Plan specific amounts of time for each activity. Review questions/activity with your D12 or co-leader ahead of time. Assign (rotating) timekeepers.

F. A member monopolizes the group with personal crises.

Root Cause: There are members with an ongoing and persisting problem.

Possible Solutions: Speak with the person privately and suggest helpful resources (e.g., counseling). Remind the group that while Christians prioritize loving one another, a small group might not be the means to provide therapy for individual needs.

G. There is no growth or spiritual multiplication taking.

Root Cause: There is unclear vision and lack of passion for reaching out to the lost.

Possible Solutions:
- Explain again CCF's Mission and Vision.
- Take up GLC in your small group.
- Practice Pray-Care-Share, Best Decision, Real Talk, and other tools for mutliplication.

H. There are conflicts within the group.

Root Cause: Often caused by misunderstanding and clash of personalities.

Possible Solutions:
- Observe the biblical guidelines for resolving conflict among believers laid down in Matthew 18:15-17.
- Seek reconciliation not retribution among the conflicting parties
- Take a positive and prayerful approach to the conflict
- Bring them back to what God's word says

II. BIBLICAL REFERENCES IN ADDRESSING CONFLICT

A. Guidelines on resolving conflicts

- Acts 15:36-41
- Matthew 5:9
- Romans 14:19
- Ephesians 4:26-27, 29-32

B. Perspective on conflicts

Read Romans 8:28

Some benefits that can come out of conflict

The challenge for small group leaders is to convert a seemingly negative experience into a positive opportunity for spiritual maturity. Conflicts can be a source of growth for small group members.

- Opportunity for clarity.
- Opportunity for unity.
- Opportunity for transparency.

APPENDIX C

DGROUP EVALUATION SHEET

Period of Observation: **Date of Evaluation:**

Please rate which best describes your assessment of the group being evaluated in the following areas with 5 being the highest and 0 being the lowest. Feel free to write your thoughts, comments, or examples in the space provided to give a better picture of your assessment. However, for every item that you rated 3 and below, please give a specific example, as well as how you can improve as a Dgroup.

5 – Excellent **3 – Well Enough** **1 – Poor**
4 – Very Well **2 – Not Well** **0 – Very Poor/Non-existent**

DGROUPS FOSTER A HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD • How well do we encourage and help each other foster a healthy relationship with God? • Some areas you may consider include studying Scripture, Scripture memorization, prayer.	5	4	3	2	1	0

COMMENT:

Upon your evaluation, what should I start doing, stop doing, continue doing?

DGROUPS FOSTER A HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER BELIEVERS • How well do we foster healthy relationships with one another? • Some areas you may consider include encouragement, bonding, and accountability.	5	4	3	2	1	0
COMMENT:						
D12S FULFILL GOD'S MISSION OF SERVICE AND MINISTRY • How well do we practice fulfilling God's mission of service and ministry? • Some areas you may consider include identifying and developing spiritual gifts, addressing needs within and outside the group.	5	4	3	2	1	0
COMMENT:						

** BASED ON BOOK 5: DGROUP 101: THE FOURFOLD PURPOSES OF SMALL GROUPS*

APPENDIX D

EXCERPT FROM CONNECT WITH THE VINE

WHY YOUR PRAYER LIFE MATTERS MORE THAN YOUR NOTES

BY JIM EGLI

Several years ago, I started a huge research project with my friend Dwight Marable to figure out what makes small groups grow.

To date, we have surveyed over 3,000 small-group leaders in more than 200 churches. The most surprising thing we've discovered is that most small-group leaders prepare for their group meetings in the wrong way. To put it succinctly: To lead a great small-group meeting, you need to spend more time praying than preparing your notes.

Three Profound Discoveries

We uncovered three significant truths about how leaders prepare for meetings and how their preparation impacts their small group's numerical growth:

1. There is zero correlation between how much time leaders spend preparing their lesson and whether the group is growing. This is amazing, but true. I don't know if this surprises you; it surprised us. When we compared hundreds of leaders—some who spend minutes preparing, some who spend hours preparing—there was absolutely no correlation between the growth rates of their groups.

2. There is a big correlation between whether the leader is praying for their members and their meeting and whether their group is growing. What fascinates me most about this discovery is that the thing that makes the most difference in whether your group is growing is something that no one in your group actually sees— your personal time with God and your prayer for your group members and your group meeting.

3. The majority of leaders spend more time preparing their lesson than they do praying for their meeting. Apparently very few leaders realize that it's more important to prepare their heart than to prepare their notes—that having a great small group depends more on God than it does on the leader's skills and abilities.

Why does prayer make such a difference?

You might be wondering why prayer makes such a difference in the health and growth of a small group. The research tells us it makes a huge difference, but it actually doesn't tell us why.

I don't think the "why" is hard to figure out, however. Jesus says in John 15:5: "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." The leaders who take time with Christ and bring their group members and meeting to God are going to be a channel of Jesus' life, compassion, and power. These leaders will also hear the Holy Spirit's direction for their meetings as they listen to him. In Luke 11:9-10, Jesus promises: "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened." As you invite God to do miracles in and through your group members, you will see Him work in new and deeper ways.

What's a small group leader to do?

Perhaps you are like the typical small-group leader surveyed and you have been spending more time preparing your lesson than you have been praying for your members and your meeting.

What should you do? Here are some simple steps that I have found helpful in my own life as a small-group leader.

Rethink your prep time.

The simplest thing for you to do is to take the amount of time you currently spend preparing for your group meetings and reallocate it. In effect, this costs you no more time. For example, if you have been taking 30 minutes to prepare for your small-group meeting and 25 of those minutes have typically been spent studying and preparing a lesson and 5 minutes have been spent praying, try reversing that so that you spend a few minutes preparing the lesson and the rest of the time praying for your members and your meeting.

You will immediately see a surprising difference in how your small-group meetings go. My own preparation for a small group has changed radically. People have been telling me that I lead and speak better than I used to. Interestingly, I don't spend more time preparing; I just spend more time in prayer.

Use the Lord's prayer to guide you.

There are lots of different ways to pray for your members and your meetings, but I like to pray through the five demarcations of the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9–13), asking God:
1. To give people a realization of His character and His closeness as a loving Father (v. 9).
2. To bring His kingdom into their lives so that they experience His goodness, power, and love as wonderfully as it is experienced in heaven (v. 10)

3. To meet their daily needs (v. 11).
4. To help them bring their sin and unforgiveness to him (v. 12).
5. To keep them from temptation and protect them from the attacks of the Evil One (v. 13).

Ask God for big things.

I often feel overwhelmed as a small-group leader. I tend to get people in my group with big problems, problems that I have no idea how to solve, issues that require real miracles. But I have learned that God specializes in miracles and the best thing I can do is bring these problems to him. Jesus said, “I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it” (John 14:13–14). Invite him to do big, God-sized things, amazing things that bring him glory.

While many other things can help make your group a safe, transformative gathering, you can’t replace prayer. We need God to show up and work in mighty ways. As leaders, let’s commit to tap into the power God offers us by praying for our group members and meetings.

STAY
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