

Small Group Facilitator Role

Here are ten tips to help you make your small group a place of growth, learning and spiritual encouragement.

1. Be a Catalyst

Help people to think individually and then interact with each other. Trust that God will lead your group through the process of Forming, Storming, Norming, and Performing.

2. Be a Guide

Start with prayer, keep discussion on track, and facilitate participation (you are a facilitator, not a teacher).

3. Clarify

Clarify questions and comments for maximum understanding and application.

4. Affirm

Encourage others by recognizing value in members and their contributions. (Imagine everyone wearing a sandwich board - affirm me on the front, appreciate me on the back)

5. Be okay with silence

To keep from talking, silently say a Hail Mary or count to ten. Break the silence by rephrasing the question.

6. Make new members feel comfortable

Welcome people, speak with them, discourage exclusive cliques.

7. Get people involved

Ask others to read, lead prayer, bring snacks, lead music, host, send group communications, etc...

8. Keep eye on “Holy Spirit barometer”

Is the discussion pleasing to the Holy Spirit?

9. Manage tangents

Is this a Spirit-guided tangent? Empower all group members to ask this question anytime they think your group might be going off track.

10. Avoid these Behaviors:

- Being the answer person, correcting every error, or always having the last word
- Monopolizing discussion - you're the facilitator, not the teacher.