

Small Group Time

Becoming An Effective Leader

Joshua 1:8

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success

To be an effective Small Group Leader we must first understand Small Group Time. Your assignment is to build relationships with young people, show them the love of Christ, and guide them as they learn God's Word.

What is Small Group Time?

Small Group Time is when you as a leader work with your young people. It presents the biggest challenge and opportunity for you to serve your young people. It is the special time when clubbers Recite and/or Memorize God's Word - being accountable to their leaders. Small Group Time is the club segment when leaders Guide their clubbers in their achievement of Entrance booklets, Handbooks. **Guide is the Key Word.**

The Purpose of Small Group Time

A. Encourage the Clubber to learn God's Word.

How do you encourage them to progress in their handbook?

1. Pray for your clubbers (encourage them to share their requests)
2. Be organized (plan contests and year end trips)
3. Be dedicated (be concerned about clubbers)
4. Know the handbooks
5. Spend time at home in handbooks (10 minutes a day to study)
6. Visit families.
7. Personal attention (smile-listen-encourage)
8. Recognize achievements

B. Teach Clubbers how to memorize

As the young people go through their sections it is your responsibility to help them understand what they are learning.

Use flash cards mix up the verses and let them put them back in order

Divide the verses into short phrases and have them say the phrase a little bit a time

Erase a word

C. Explain to the Clubbers the Scripture they are learning

Use the questions and the definitions box to help them understand the words.

D. Pass Clubbers on sections in the handbook

You listen to them say their verses and sign their sections.

E. Counsel Clubbers on sections when problems or needs are evident

F. Get to know each Clubber individually and discover their relationship to Christ

Call them during the week

Talk to them before club

Let them know that you care

- G. Encourage the unsaved to place their faith in Christ as Savior and Lord
- H. Encourage to Christian to grow spiritually by reading, meditating, and memorizing the Scriptures daily and by praying often
- I. Encourage the Clubber to share their faith with family and friends. Choose a friend to pray for.
- J. Teach them to pray in public

Goals of the Small Group Leader

- A. Encourage and follow up on each clubber in his/her book
- B. Know what to expect from each clubber in their handbook
- C. Know the answers to the questions in the clubbers books before they are brought to you
- D. Be able to explain the scripture to your clubbers
- E. Pass the sections yourself

Room Set Up

The ideal room arrangement would be for each group to have their own room, but that is not always possible. If you have room, young people should sit at tables. If not, Clubbers should sit in a semicircle facing the leader with their backs to the rest of the group.

Conducting the Small Group Time

Talk to the young people to find out how their week has been. Show that you care about them. If they think you don't care you will not be able to help them grow in the word. Take prayer requests and open in prayer so young people see that prayer is important. It shows your dependences on God.

It sets a serious tone.

It reminds clubbers the importance of God's Word.

It helps them learn how to pray, if you have a clubber that wants to pray let them.

It brings the clubbers needs before God.

Who is ready to pass their section tonight?

When you ask that question you will have several clubbers raise their hands.

The numbers cards are a very good tool that can help to eliminate the problem of "I want to go first." Ask the clubbers to recite in the order that they are on the cards. Pass out cards with numbers on them to a few people. Give number 1 a chance then 2 and so forth. If they are not ready then go to the back of the line.

Spend time with each clubber

The handbook section must be passed in one sitting with only 2 helps.

Problems of Small Group Time

- A. Not enough help
Challenge more people to get involved
- B. Clubbers don't bring their handbook
Extra points given to team that all members have books
Call to remind them to bring book
- C. Clubbers come unprepared and have no desire to learn
Talk to parents
Pray earnestly for the clubber
Stress the importance of learning God's word and how it can change their lives
- D. Clubbers pass their book before the club year is over.
Sparks do Frequent Fliers Cards
T&T do Silver and Gold Units
Come up with your own memory work

Three Types of Clubbers

A. Bright Aggressive

This is the one that will bless you because they will come in ready to pass 12 sections a night. But you have to remember that they may not know what they are learning. Not only that you don't want them to finish their book too early. You may have to limit them on how many sections they can pass. You don't want them to take up all your time or the others kids will feel cheated and you might have discipline problems. If you have them in a semicircle around you, go to the first one and have them pass 2 sections. This is where the number cards will come in handy. Then go to the next one. When you have given all a chance, go back and start over if time allows. You can use this clubber to help another clubber learn a verse.

B. Average Plodder

This is the one that needs a little encouragement. They may be the one that comes in each week with only one section ready. They may not get any help at home from their parents. It may take a phone call or a visit to the home.

C. Potential Problem

Every clubber is different. You may have one that has a hard time reading, as we did one year. We made a tape for him of the verses and he listened to them over and over until he knew them.. We also gave him more than two helps to encourage him. We had a boy in our group that would walk around the room saying the verses to himself then go to the leader to pass a section. He was always on the move but didn't disturb any of the other clubbers. If you didn't know that is the way he studied you could make him sit still. Then he gets bored and you have a problem. With encouragement and studying 10 minutes a day most clubbers can finish a book in one year.