

Guidelines for Men's Small Faith Sharing Groups.

There are many different types of sharing groups, as there are men. It is important however to have some initial guidelines to help groups to get started. Groups should range in numbers from 3-7 on average. You should be prepared to divide if the group begins to grow any larger. This can be a very difficult task and men can be seriously hurt if this has not been discussed and a format developed from the beginning.

Here are some important things to remember for any group:

1. Pray

Always begin and end with prayer

Either take turns or delegate someone to prepare a prayer for the beginning and the end of the meeting. At the end praying with someone in need is always beneficial and suggested.

2. Confidentiality

There is nothing that can destroy a group more quickly than what someone shares in confidence, being told to someone else. Whatever is said within a group stays within the group.

3. Preparation

Do your homework, be prepared to share on the subject or question at hand. Try to stay on the subject/question.

4. I Not You

True sharing is in the first person, talking about how something affects you personally.

5. No Judging

Do not contradict, correct or admonish for the way someone feels. We are all at different places seeking to grow closer to God.

6. Don't Monopolize

Some of us have been given the gift of gab. Leave this gift at the door so everyone has an opportunity to share. Don't be afraid of silence and allowing someone the time to express themselves.

7. Commitment

There will always be a time when someone has to miss a meeting, but it is important to make this time a priority in your life.