

:: ministry toolbox ::

What If We Want To Build A Bible Club?



How Do We Form a Leadership Team?

Carefully choosing your leaders is key if you want to have a strong leadership team.

CHARACTER

Requirements of a Leader

Here is a list of qualities that each leader should exhibit.

- Pursues Christ and desires to actively love others—1 Thessalonians 2:8
- Strong faith/relationship with the Lord—Proverbs 3:5,6; Matthew 22:37
- Character & integrity—1 Chronicles 29:17
- Humility—1 Peter 5:5b; Ephesians 4:2 & 5:21
- Faithfulness—Proverbs 14:23; 1 Peter 4:10
- Leader with vision—Daniel 12:3;
- In the Word—Colossians 3:16; 2 Timothy 2:15
- Person of prayer—1 Thessalonians 5:17; Colossians 4:2
- Led by and filled with the Holy Spirit, desire to be used—Isaiah 6:8; Acts 8:26,27a; 2 Corinthians 5:7; Ephesians 5:18-20
- Desires to share their faith and see people come to know the Lord—Acts 20:24; Acts 4:20; Acts 1:8
- Teachable heart—Psalm 32:8,9; Proverbs 9:9, 10:8, 12:1
- Respects and honors authority figures—Romans 13:1; Ephesians 6:1-3
- Has healthy relationships—Ephesians 4:25,29,32; Mark 12:31
- Servant's heart—Matthew 20:26; Ephesians 6:7; Mark 9:55
- Values teamwork—2 Timothy 2:22; Acts 2:44-47
- Honors Christ in thought, word, deed, and relationships—1 Timothy 4:12

Do

Necessary actions of an on-campus ministry leader:

- Consistently spending time with Jesus
- Attending each meeting
- A desire and willingness to build relationships with students on campus
- Actively sharing the gospel with their peers
- Connecting with students within the ministry
- To be living a Christ-centered life and abiding in Him
- Staying strongly connected with and involved in a church youth group
- Commits to being trained and then training others to multiply the ministry
- Being actively devoted to preserving unity in the group

Word Wisdom

* Matthew 22:37,38
Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.

* Jeremiah 29:13
"...You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart. I will be found by you," declares the Lord...

* Philippians 2:1-3
If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from His love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.

* Matthew 28:19-20
Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.



How Can Our Leadership Team Begin Well?

Help your club begin the year well and with a healthy vision.

Word Wisdom

* Luke 14:27-33
 And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow Me cannot be My disciple. Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it?...Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be My disciple.

PURPOSE

Never forget the purpose and vision of your ministry!

God placed you on your campus for a reason...to be representatives and lights for Him! The mission and purpose for your ministry should always be to serve and share the gospel on your campus. You must be intentional about building relationships with your peers and being the kind of leader illustrated on the previous page.

THINK

Count the Cost!

Are you willing to do what it takes for your campus to meet Christ? Do this exercise with your leadership team:

Read Luke 14:27-33

- Are you willing to pay the price and make sacrifices to follow Christ this year?
- What are some sacrifices you may have to make as a team?
- Are we willing to make prayer a top priority? How will we accomplish this?
- Are we willing to welcome new people into our circle from other churches and social groups? How will we accomplish this?
- Are we willing to serve other people, even when they aren't grateful? How?
- The people who most need to be reached on your campus may not always be the most convenient group to reach. Look at your campus with the eyes of Christ...Who needs to be reached on your campus and how will you reach them?

REMEMBER

Now that you're ready to dive into this year's ministry:

- Constantly remember and renew your purpose and vision as a ministry team.
- Constantly renew your commitment to be obedient to the Holy Spirit!
- Always remember why God has placed you on your campus and seek HIS will for your peers there.
- Also, you MUST always have a plan to reach your campus for Christ! If you show up to a meeting and say "what should we do today?," you're in big trouble!



How Can Our Leadership Team Begin Well?

READ & DO

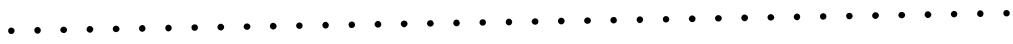
How To Have Effective Leadership Team Meetings... So that things get done!

IN ADVANCE

- Have one person be the moderator who facilitates the meeting (they need to have good people skills)
- Plan the topics to cover beforehand:
 - ◆ Effective Team Meetings accomplish 4 things:
 1. Prayer
 2. Making Decisions
 3. Discussing Issues
 4. Assigning Jobs or Accepting Responsibilities
 - ◆ Decide in advance:
 - ⇒ How you'll make PRAYER the driving force of your meeting
 - ⇒ What DECISIONS you need to make
 - ⇒ Which ISSUES need to be discussed
 - ⇒ Which JOBS need to be assigned
- Not EVERY meeting needs to do ALL of these things
- Make a list of goals to help the moderator (see template on next page)
- PRAY a lot BEFORE the meeting...get others praying

DURING THE MEETING

- PRAY FIRST (long or short)
- Lay out ground rules at the beginning...simply and clearly...some examples below:
 - ◆ We make decisions by prayer and agreement
 - ◆ We discuss issues in Christ-like love and settle all disagreements with prayer
 - ◆ We don't leave angry...we pray until we're okay
 - ◆ We all support decisions that are made in the meeting
- Lay out the agenda...BRIEFLY...or on paper
 - ◆ "Today, we need to make decisions on..."
 - ◆ "Today, we need to discuss..."
 - ◆ "Today, we need to get people to do these jobs..."
- Watch the clock so that you don't use up all your time (have someone be the time keeper)
- Try to include as many people as possible each time
- Prevent people from being "put down"
- WHENEVER you run into trouble, immediately ask the group to pray for God's will and for unity
- Have someone take notes or minutes





The "Club" Meeting

READ

It is vital to remember that your "club" meeting should never be a place that Christians come to hide out during lunch! While it is not a bad thing to use your meeting as a place for fellowship and instruction, that is what church should be for. There is a specific reason that the Lord placed YOU on your campus...and that is to REACH your campus! God has invited you, as His children, to do ministry with Him on your campus! How cool is that? Therefore, the purpose of your large group meetings should either be outreach, or planning ways that your ministry (a.k.a. "club") can work together to reach and impact your campus with the message of the gospel!

Included in this section are instructions on how to build a Bible lesson and various samples of lessons that you can use in your "Club" meeting. To be as helpful as possible, they have a wide range of topics. So let's get going! Here are a few tips:

.....

BEGIN

Introduction to Building Your Own Lesson

It may seem scary to lead a meeting, but here are three reasons why you don't have to be afraid:

1. Your friends will listen to you far more than they would listen to an adult. They want to hear from someone they know and someone to whom they can relate!
2. You can make mistakes and your friends will still listen to you!
3. God will give you the words to say when you ask Him!

The truth is, God didn't call adults to reach your friends for Christ...He called you! Your unsaved friends will never believe in Jesus Christ if they cannot believe in you first...as a friend and then as a witness!

.....

BUILD

Building Your Own Lesson

Things to Remember During Preparation:

- PRAY and ask God to help you
- Read the passage or story several times
- PRAY some more
- Fill out the template (below)
- PRAY some more

(continued on next page)

.....



The "Club" Meeting

BUILD

(continued)

Things to Remember During the Meeting:

- Have friends praying (before and during club) both for the lesson and those who attend
- Teach one main idea...keep it simple!
- Pay attention to the clock BUT be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit
- Don't be afraid to use your notes (just don't READ the whole lesson)
- Have someone pray at the start of the meeting
- When leading a group, remember: always respect each other and one person talks at a time
- Have someone read the passage out loud (maybe even give each person a copy)
- Tell one personal story (either to introduce or to show application at the end)
- At the end, see if there are any final questions or thoughts, and have someone pray to close (or pray yourself)
- It is also a good idea to invite people to respond (whether asking if any of them would like to make decisions for Christ or just telling them that the leadership team would love to talk with them after and answer any questions, concerns they may have).

Two Sample Schedules For a 20-Minute Meeting:

Sample #1

- Prayer (1 minute)
- Small Groups (5-7 minutes)
- Large Group Discussion (5-7 minutes)
- Main Point...the "so what?" (3-4 minutes)
- Prayer (1 minute)

Sample #2

- Prayer (1 minute)
- Small Groups (7-9 minutes)
- Main Point...the "so what?" (7-9 minutes)
- Prayer (1 minute)

.....

QUESTIONS

How To Ask Questions...So People Will Want To Talk

- 1) Lay out ground rules at the beginning:
 - one at a time
 - if you talk, tell the truth
 - no one is forced to talk, you can always "pass"
 - don't gossip or put anyone down!
- 2) Use simple words and never ask questions that can be answered with a "yes" or "no."
- 3) Be willing to wait for answers, silence is okay! If there is a long pause, you can:
 - ask, "Do you understand the question?"
 - ask, "Why is this a hard question to answer?"
 - find another way to ask the question
- 4) If many people talk at once, you can ask them to raise their hands or tell the answer to a friend.
- 5) If someone says something controversial, you can:
 - ask, "What do the rest of you think?"
 - ask "Who agrees? Who disagrees? Why?"
- 6) If someone asks a question that you can't answer...some ideas:
 - NEVER make up an answer, be honest! Tell them you will look into it and get back to them!
 - ask, "What do the rest of you think?"
- 7) If someone gets way off track, be courteous and say "How about we talk about that after club?"

.....



The "Club" Meeting

BUILD

Bible Club Lesson Template

Campus

The Bible Passage is:

- What does this passage say in my own words?

- How does this apply to my own life?

Small Groups: (use only the questions that apply)

- WHO question(s)

- WHAT question(s)

- WHY question(s)

- HOW question(s)

Large Group:

- Discussion
 - Discuss the answers to one or two of the above questions

- The Main Point (So what?)
 - What is the main point?

 - What personal story can I tell that might relate?

 - So what should we do? (one-sentence answer)

