

GROUP LIFE LEADERS

LEAD WELL BEST PRACTICES

Every small group is unique, and you must recognize the needs and personalities of the members in your specific group. Here are some best practices that will help you confidently lead well.

HOW TO SPEND YOUR TIME TOGETHER

To have time to cover everything in your group meeting, we recommend a schedule like this:

Connect	30mins	Catch up, eat, discuss last week's prayer requests, and socialize.
Discuss	60mins	Discuss the SDG, a book, a video, or whatever you are studying.
Pray	15mins	Share prayer requests and spend time praying together.
Wrap Up	15mins	Agree on when/where your next meeting will be and other details.

DELEGATION

As a small group leader, you might be tempted to do everything for your group. Sometimes, your group might think it's YOUR JOB to do everything. This isn't the case.

Healthy small groups function in a way where, throughout time, responsibilities are shared between members. Think about the gifts/interests of those in the group and how each person can contribute. This might include things such as:

- Bringing a snack or coordinating a snack schedule
- Hosting the group in your home
- Championing communication (sending reminder texts/emails)
- Organizing prayer requests
- Leading conversations
- Being a serving champion—somebody who will help your group volunteer

ADDITIONAL POINTS TO LEAD WELL

Eat. Take turns bringing a snack to small group, and share a meal occasionally.

Implement Scripture. No matter what you are studying, always use Scripture to guide your discussion.

Revisit Your Small Group Covenant Often. This can be your ally in keeping the group on track and continuing to grow.

Go to Church Together. Attending together can help with making this large church feel small.

Listen Well. It's important to listen well to your group. Try to speak less and listen more. Asking the right questions should help.

Avoid Political Small Talk. Your group is not together to talk about politics or other cultural topics. Instead, focus on one another and what you are studying.

Ask Great Questions & Encourage Question Asking. Questions are one of your best friends as a small group leader. Check out our guide on asking great questions on the leader resource page at adabible.org/leader-resources/.

Say "I Don't Know." Often the best answer is simply "I don't know," and it will gain the trust of your group. Your staff contact would love to help you find an answer.

Be Creative with Prayer Time. See our Leader Resource on Prayer. Get started with these ideas:

- Assign prayer partners to pray throughout the week and check in on each other.
- Lead the group in prayer yourself.
- Invite specific people to pray.
- Go around the circle - take turns praying.

Change Your Rhythm in Different Seasons. Each season offers unique opportunities and challenges for your group. Check out our guide to maximizing each season in leader resources online.

REACH OUT TO STAFF CONTACT

We hope you find these tips helpful when leading well. Please contact your staff for more specific tips for your group. They are there to help and eager to assist you.