

GROUP LIFE LEADERS

SERVING AS A SMALL GROUP

You hear us talk about serving a lot at Ada Bible. We believe serving is important because God created, gifted and called us to serve. Jesus modeled service for us, so you might say serving is core to being a Jesus-follower. Serving helps us grow in our faith and is how we as a church bless our local and worldwide communities.

But it can be hard to know how to help our groups take a desire to serve and turn it into action. Below are some tips for serving and finding a place to serve.

PRACTICAL TIPS FOR SERVING

Identify a Serving Champion. Leading a group can be challenging, but it's important to remember the leader doesn't have to do everything. Identify the right person and let them lead in this area.

Serve Regularly. Whether once a month or every other month, serving in a regular rhythm provides a plan and accountability to make it happen. Don't cancel if someone can't make it. If you can still serve, it's usually best to stick to the plan with those who can make it.

Serve During Group. Whenever possible, serve in ways that fit right in with your regular meeting time. Sometimes this isn't possible, but it makes aligning schedules much easier.

Pray Regularly. Consider praying regularly and in advance for those you will serve. Ask God to give you hearts of service and humility, and ask to be used to bring him honor. Also, pray for those who you will or already have served. Making this a practice can help grow your heart for serving.

Prepare Your 15-Second Testimonies: Make sure everyone is comfortable sharing their 15-second testimonies. We don't know what opportunities God may place before us to share a brief snapshot of what Christ has done in our lives. To learn more about this, check out our study, *The Gospel & Your Story: The 15 Second story* on Right Now Media. (Get your free Right Now Media account at app.rightnowmedia.org/join/adabiblechurch)

CHOOSING WHERE TO SERVE

Identify Areas of Passion. Start by asking the group what things they are passionate about as it applies to serving. Then listen for themes that keep coming up. This should help you identify the types of opportunities to look for. As a bonus, this conversation often enables you to identify the serving champion too. They are probably the most passionate person during this discussion.

Start simple. Starting simple will keep a group at it. In addition, simple tasks are often better for kids to jump in and serve too if applicable.

Build Relationships. God often uses service opportunities to grow us and those we serve. Ask yourself how you can build relationships with those you are serving.

Consider Opportunities through Ada Bible. There are many opportunities to serve at Ada Bible. Groups can serve in our children's ministry, clean rooms, plant flowers, welcome people at events, and much more. Find a place to serve at [AdaBible.Info > Serve](#).

Local Resources. Our church partners with several great local organizations. Find a local organization for your small group to support at adabile.org/serving/.

REACH OUT TO STAFF CONTACT

We hope you find these tips helpful as you help your group find its place to serve. Please contact your staff for more specific tips for your group. They are there to help and eager to assist you.