

Would you like to join a Small Group at Fellowship Bible Church?

Most existing groups are open to new group members, and new groups begin on a regular basis. If you have friends in a small group, ask about joining their group. If you are new to Fellowship and are looking for a place to connect, please feel free to contact us and we can help you find the right group.

Leader Tips:

1. The sermon notes are designed to be used as a guide for discussion. Don't feel like you have to use every question. Some questions will take a while to work through, others will be over in a few seconds!
2. Don't teach the lesson. The sermon was taught on Sunday morning. Just ask questions and let everyone else talk.
3. Let other people ask questions. It's OK to go "off topic" for a while. Sometimes those conversations are more interesting anyway!
4. Have fun. Relationships, not curriculum, are the heartbeat of Small Groups. So have fun with the people in your group.

Agenda for a Small Group Meeting

Gathering Time

Take 15-20 minutes to welcome everyone, catch up, and share some food!

Discussion Time

Here's a suggested format:

1. **Ice Breaker** – Lighthearted ice-breaker question (15-20 min.)
2. **Discussion** - Discussion time, Bible study, application challenge (30-40 min.)
3. **Prayer** – Prayer requests and praying for one another (15-30 min.)
4. **Planning** – Keep the vision before the group, HEALTH planning, etc. (10 minutes)

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Gossiping the Gospel: ReThinking Evangelism
Mission Possible

Chad Lengyel

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Break the Ice!

What makes a close friend a close friend?

How I connect with people:

- Trip them, then help them up
- Change my 5-day deodorant pads after 3 days
- Blindside them with my multi-level marketing plan
- Static cling
- Vulcan mind meld
- Other: _____

Talk it over!

Some common ground I have with my non-believing friends:

- Kids
- Singleness
- Sports
- Pain
- Marriage
- Other: _____

1. Evangelism is a natural part of the Christian Life.

I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, ⁵because I hear about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints. ⁶I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ. —Philemon 1:4-6

The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, ⁹for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead— Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath. —1 Thess 1:8-10

But to stop this thing from spreading any further among the people, we must warn these men to speak no longer to anyone in this name."

¹⁸Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. ¹⁹But Peter and John replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God. ²⁰For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard." ²¹After further threats they let them go. They could not decide how to punish them, because all the people were praising God for what had happened. —Acts 4:17-21

Agree or Disagree: Is there a natural way for the average person to share their faith in Christ?

Question: How do these three passages challenge you to share your faith?

About taking initiative in relationships:

- Hey! I already know too many people!
- I've never met a stranger
- I need a lot of God's help for this.
- Let *them* make the first move.
- It's not my strength, but I'm working on it.
- Other: _____

2. We "Gossip the Gospel"

Gossip: exciting/interesting news, spread by word of mouth in informal situations

...filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God. ¹²Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel. ¹³As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. ¹⁴Because of my chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged to speak the word of God more courageously and fearlessly. —Philippians 1:11-14

Also see Acts 4:17-20

Question: When do you see opportunities to talk about Jesus with your friends?

Question: What makes you nervous about telling your friends about Jesus?

3. The Gospel is our Motivation

A big story that is summed up in four words:

Relationship
Rupture
Reconciliation
Repentance

See 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 and Colossians 1:20-22

Question: How would you describe your level of motivation to share the gospel with your friends?

- I am afraid to share my faith
- I am unmotivated
- I love to share my faith
- I am apathetic
- Other: _____

Question: How do you think your motivation can increase to share your faith?

4. The Gospel Gets a Response

Not everyone receives, but everyone responds.

One message, two aromas: Death or Perfume

For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. ¹⁶To the one we are the smell of death; to the other, the fragrance of life. And who is equal to such a task? —2 Corinthians 2:15-16

Question: When did you respond positively to the gospel? If you have not received the gospel, what is keeping you from receiving Christ?

5. Responding with Joy

Christian: Thank God, tell others

Non-Christian: "Step one": I have a problem and I need Jesus.

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. —Ephesians 2:8-9

Question: How do you need to respond?

My strongest motivation to speak up for Christ:

- After all he's done for me, how can I keep quiet?
- I want others to have what I've experienced.
- It's hard to keep what you don't give away.
- It's a demonstration of my gratitude to God.
- He speaks up for me!

Other: _____

Work It Out!

One thing I'll do differently because of this sermon:
