

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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Pardon Me, Your Manners Are Showing

Details

Phillip Wright

March 7, 2010

Warm up!

My strategies for stress relief:

- Write my teenagers out of my will.
- A large bag of Oreos and a cold glass of milk.
- Vacuum, vacuum, vacuum. Oops! Where's the cat?
- Voting my boss off the island.
- A nap—followed by another nap.
- Other: _____

What's your idea of an enjoyable, relaxing weekend?

Talk it over!

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-7

Manners Matter

1. We can have a lot of spiritual stuff but if we don't have love we've got a whole lot of nothin'

¹If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ²If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

—1 Corinthians 13:1-3

Question: Which of these do you tend to make a big deal out of?

- Tongues
- Prophetic powers, insights and knowledge
- Faith
- Generosity
- Self sacrifice
- Other: _____

The Real Issue: Do I have a whole lotta love

Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy. —1 Corinthians 14:1

2. Love is the "it" in the Christian life.

—Read these passages together: John 13:34-35; John 15:9; 1 John 3:14; 1 John 4:16,20-21; Romans 13:8-9

Question: Why does the Bible make such a big deal about love?

Our Manners Are Not Showing. Why?

¹⁴The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. ¹⁶So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.
—Galatians 5:14-16

Question: According to the above passage, what keeps us from showing love?

Love is our "spiritual yardstick". What kinds of things do we like to use as "spiritual yardsticks" instead of love?

Let the Manners Show!

1. Are we "out of shape" or "out of bounds"?

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

—1 Corinthians 13:4-5

For discussion: From the passage above, list all the things that love is not. Is there a relationship in your life where you are not showing love?

2. Live out the values of where we live.

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in one spirit, contending as one man for the faith of the gospel

—Philippians 1:27

Question: Where are you challenged to live out the values of love?

- At work
- In my family
- With my church
- While I play
- All of the above
- Other: _____

As a Christ-follower, where is our citizenship?

²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,

—Philippians 3:20

Question: How should a citizen of heaven behave on the earth?

Question: Do you think your friends would believe that you are a citizen of heaven based on your behavior?

Work It Out!

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