

Five Ways to Lead Well Between Meetings

by Kim George

1. **Contact.**

- **Call**—Every week, call at least one member. Even better, assign group members to call each other. It's a good way to practice asking accountability questions in a more intimate setting.
- **Email**—A weekly email to the whole group shows you are thinking of them and planning ahead. Use it to send out news items that cannot wait for group time.
- **Meet**—Once a month meet for some one-on-one time with one or two of your members. Have a potluck, coffee, game or movie night for the whole group.

2. **Prospects**—Call them promptly. They are waiting to be invited. Coach your members to be welcoming when a new member comes to group. Reach out to him or her shortly after the first meeting by phone or for coffee.

3. **Serve together**—This could be in addition to or instead of meeting one week. Serving together is a great way to build community within the group while at the same time, helping those who have needs outside your group.

4. **Pray**—Pray for your members, your leaders and yourself! Remember that it is God who gives the increase.

5. **Delegate to your apprentice**—Give him or her some of the above tasks. If you don't have an apprentice, seek one in which you can pour yourself into. Our goal should be to multiply disciples (2 Timothy 2:2). Some people are just waiting to be asked.



Kim George

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I lead the women's ministry small groups at Harvest Bible Chapel in Rolling Meadows, IL. I lead/train/recruit flock leaders who in turn lead 3-5 small group leaders. Our goal is to live out 2 Tim 2:2 and see groups grow and multiply.

I've spent the last 20 years involved in small groups one way or another: as a member, a leader in couples' and women's groups and as a flock leader for both. It was after praying for a "new vision" that the Women's Ministry director asked if I would take on the task of revitalizing our small groups. I love to see how God uses people with all sorts of spiritual gifts and makes them effective leaders.

I've been married for 24 years to my high school sweetheart. We have two sons in college who are on fire serving the Lord. I'm a nuts and bolts accountant and self-proclaimed geek. When not working on small group ministry, I am writing on my blog or sending email. My passion is to teach women to feed themselves from the Word of God. It's my joy and privilege to be used by God in this way.

Kim George Interview with Small Group Exchange:

Small Group Exchange: When did you decide to serve in Small Group Ministry?

Kim George: Wow, I don't really remember deciding. When the women's ministry director called and asked if I'd lead the small group ministry, I figured it was an answer to prayer and how could I say no? It's been an interesting and on going challenge of raising the bar in our groups.

Small Group Exchange: What encouragement would you offer to small group leaders out there?

Kim George: There is no doubt that people can be frustrating. Ministry would be so much easier without all the people! It's not always easy, but the rewards are great. I believe the times when you have seen a life change...when God let's you be involved in His ultimate plan...well it's God's reward. What an awesome privilege to be used by God.

Small Group Exchange: In what ways have you and your spouse/family grown spiritually since you have been involved in this ministry?

Kim George: As a small group member, I've been able to be encouraged and exhorted in Spiritual disciplines and found a community where I can actively use my spiritual gifts that would otherwise be impossible in a large church. As a leader, I've been humbled and stretched in my faith as others have looked to me for guidance. It's not easy, but it's doing the Lord's work. If I don't do it, he'll find someone who will.

Small Group Exchange: Why does small group ministry play such a critical role in the church today?

Kim George: Small groups allow people to exercise their spiritual gifts and to be challenged in a way that is impossible in a larger setting. Additionally, small groups have always been like an extended family—sharing holidays and practically helping one another. It releases the pastor to do what he is called to do and gives each member the attention he couldn't otherwise receive.