

Leading Leaders Coaching Session #10



Leadership Competency: **Deployer**

Key verse: Luke 10:1-2

Key question: Am I leading people to serve outside the walls?

Description: A Deployer provides inspiration and direction to LifeGroup leaders to engage in serve out/missional living/restoration effort opportunities.

Connect:

1) When and where have you served outside the walls of CVC? How did that missional service opportunity lead to transformation in your life?

Celebrate:

2) What's something new that you've learned recently that has excited or enriched you that you can celebrate?

3) The last time we met, you committed to do something to encourage a LifeGroup leader to be a better Scout. What progress have you made? (Note: Open your time together in prayer.)

Coach:

4) In the podcast with Rick Eimers and Rick Duncan, we learned that Leaders of Leaders must remind LifeGroup leaders that it's their responsibility to help the members of the group see themselves as missionaries 24/7/365. What are some reasons our people don't see themselves as "missionaries cleverly disguised as...? Title a Post-it "Hindrances and Helps to See Ourselves as Missionaries." Write the hindrances on the left side of a giant Post-it.

5) What are some creative ideas to help a LifeGroup leader model for his/her group members a missional lifestyle—to live according to the 3-foot rule? (Whoever is within a 3-foot radius is someone that the Lord has placed in my path. I ask, "How can I help this person know Christ?")

6) In the podcast, Rick and Rick reminded us that CVC has promoted the use of a tool—the 3 Circles Life Conversation Guide. (You can watch Pastor Chad Allen teach how to use the 3 Circles here: <http://www.cvconline.org/resources/3-circles/>) If you can learn 3 circles, 3 arrows and 9 words, then you can share the gospel! Be creative in answering this question: How can you as a Leader of Leaders make sure that the LifeGroup leaders you are leading are equipping the members of their groups to be able to share the 3 circles?

7) In the podcast, we heard (again!) that CVC is challenging every member and attender to be a LifeHouse. (You can download the booklet here: <http://cvconline.org/images/uploads/LifeHouses.pdf>) It's not okay if someone in a LifeGroup is not functioning as a LifeHouse! Be creative in answering this question: How can you as a Leader of Leaders make sure that the LifeGroup leaders you are leading are encouraging the members of their groups to be LifeHouses?

8) What are some reasons our people can see themselves as "missionaries cleverly disguised as...? On the Post-it "Hindrances and Helps to See Ourselves as Missionaries," write the helps on the right side of the giant Post-it. Talk about how the **helps** can outshine the **hindrances**.

Communicate:

[Together, read through the following article.]

Why Small Groups Need to Be On Mission

by Alan Danielson with edits from Rick Duncan

Many people think the primary purpose of LifeGroups is to help people get connected so they won't leave the church. After all, it's by being connected to the church that people become disciples, right? Wrong! Being connected to a church can provide strong Christian relationships (which are necessary), but that's not enough.

Still others think that LifeGroups exist to be Bible Studies. After all, knowing the Bible transforms people. Right? Not necessarily. In 1 Corinthians 8:1 Paul wrote, "While knowledge may make us feel important, it is love that really builds up the church" (NLT). Bible studies can provide strong Christian knowledge (which is necessary), but that's just not enough.

Remember, Jesus' parting words in Matthew 28:19 were to "go and make disciples of all nations." Discipleship is so much more than Christian relationships and Christian knowledge. Those are two ingredients, but without a third ingredient, true discipleship doesn't happen. So, what's that third ingredient? Living on mission.

Mark and Amy's Group

Mark and Amy had a LifeGroup of six people and they decided to participate in a one-day mission event. The mission was to take backpacks filled with school supplies to the poorest elementary school in the area and give them to every student on the role.

Something happened to Mark and Amy's LifeGroup that day that they didn't expect. They saw more than just happy kids getting free stuff; they saw kids who needed role models, single moms who needed love and ongoing support, and one fourth grade teacher in particular who really grabbed their hearts. When the event was over they asked the teacher if she would let them adopt her class for the entire school year. She didn't really know what they meant, but she said yes.

Every time that class had a party, Mark and Amy's LifeGroup was there with cupcakes. Every time there was a school play, the group was there to cheer on the kids. Every time there was a field trip, the group was there to chaperone. Every time there was a need in the class, the group was there to meet it.

Before long Mark and Amy's group started inviting the kids to church with them; sure enough, the kids came. Every weekend the LifeGroup would walk into church with three or four extra kids. Soon one of the kid's mothers came to church, too. And one weekend that mom gave her life to Christ! Eternity was changed because a group handed out school supplies and then went all out in love.

No greater learning comes than what we learn on mission. No greater fellowship is experienced than what we experience on mission. No greater disciples are produced than those produced on mission. When we get off the couch with our small groups and live together on mission, we'll learn a ton, love each other more, and we'll truly be Jesus' disciples.

It's time for your group to get up. Go out. Look with Jesus' eyes. Find a cause. Meet needs. Share the gospel. Change the world!

Discipleship Comes from Mission

Make no mistake, you and the members of your LifeGroup are in a war. It's a spiritual war, and the cost is greater than human lives—it's human souls. Eternity is at stake and church leaders have been given the sobering task of equipping God's army for this war. So we must take careful aim!

Consider the three ingredients for discipleship discussed earlier: relationships, knowledge, and mission. When we aim our LifeGroup discipleship methods at relationships and knowledge, we don't get mission. Not to any great degree, anyway. Yet when we aim our LifeGroup discipleship methods at mission, we get all three.

How did Jesus make disciples? He invited them to be a part of the mission. "Come, follow Me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men" (Mark 1:17). He didn't invite them first to the upper room for a Bible study. He invited them to the mission! Jesus paints a word picture of the church in Matthew 16:18: "I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it." He didn't picture the church holed up in Sunday-school rooms studying Scripture so we could keep Satan at bay. He painted a picture of the church on a mission—the mission of storming Hell's gates and liberating the souls of people who are damned without Christ.

When we are on Christ's mission together, we have fellowship that can't be explained. When we are on Christ's mission together, the things we've learned from His Word become more meaningful. When we are on Christ's mission together, our actions make a difference.

Do you want your LifeGroups to create true disciples? Then your LifeGroup strategy must start with mission. In our hearts and minds, we must redefine discipleship. Here's a definition I've been working on, and I hope it helps clarify things for you and your LifeGroup: "Discipleship is joining with others to follow Christ's mission, through which we experience radical spiritual formation and unbreakable relational connection."

<http://www.smallgroups.com/articles/2010/why-small-groups-need-to-be-on-mission.html?paging=off>

Alan Danielson is the Lead Pastor of New Life Bible Church. Previously, he was on the executive staff of Life.Church in Edmond, Oklahoma.

9) The article mentions three ingredients for effective LifeGroups: 1) Learning, 2) Relationships, and 3) Mission. What happens in a LifeGroup when learning is emphasized at the expense of relationships and mission? What happens in a LifeGroup when relationships are emphasized at the expense of learning and mission? What happens in a LifeGroup when mission is emphasized at the expense of relationships and learning?

10) What are ways that you as a Leader of Leaders can help your LifeGroup leaders to accomplish all 3 – 1) Learning, 2) Relationships, and 3) Mission – going 3 for 3?

11) In the podcast, Rick and Rick shared that "go into all the world" means something—that it's easier than ever for people to go around the world on mission. How can you help your LifeGroup leaders encourage their LifeGroup members to set a goal of going overseas on mission at least once in their life?

12) What is one thing you will commit to do in the next 2 weeks to encourage a LifeGroup leader to deploy his/her people on mission?

Care:

13) Since we are dealing today with this whole topic of living missionally, what's your best next step to growing as a missionary cleverly disguised as...? Who is far from God that you praying for? What is your plan to have a conversation to share the 3 circles?

14) How can I pray for you?