

Leading Leaders Coaching Session #7



Leadership Competency: **Trainer (part 2)**

Key verse: 2 Timothy 2:2

Key question: Am I helping other leaders become better at what they do?

Description: A Trainer understands, applies, and communicates the “LifeGroup Resource Guide.” A Trainer knows how to inspire LifeGroup leaders to greater productivity, commitment, and loyalty. A Trainer provides instruction, guidance, and coaching to LifeGroup leaders in the Core Competencies of Leading Others.

Connect:

1) As you think about your past, who is someone that you consider to be a great example for your life? What is it about him/her that makes you say that? What practices/behaviors have you implemented from her/his 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, we discussed why it might be advantageous to read a book on apologetics/doctrine. What progress have you made on the goal that you set?

Coach:

4) In this session, we are focused on how we can help train the LifeGroup leader to be a Blueprint – to be able to say, as the Apostle Paul could say, to his/her LifeGroup members, “Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ” (1 Corinthians 11:1). A Blueprint is a person who models for others the spiritual disciplines of the Christian life. Blueprints lead themselves well and are good examples to others. A key question for every LifeGroup Leader is: “Am I living out what I’m inviting others into?” Think back to a past LifeGroup you were in. What were some things that made your leader a good example to others? Write them on the left side of a giant Post-it.

5) Without naming names, what were some reasons that a past LifeGroup leader was not a good example? Write these down on the right side of the Post-it. How did these negatives limit the effectiveness of the LifeGroup Leader?

6) In the podcast for this session, Gregg Jacobsen talked about how the blueprints for building the physical structure for CVC were so vital to follow. What could happen if a building were built without a blueprint? What are the benefits of having a well-executed blueprint? In light of this, what are our implications for leading the leaders of others?

7) In the podcast, Gregg mentioned how important it is for leaders to be servants – to be people who ask, “Am I living out what I want others to do? Am I doing the actual things I’m asking others to do?” How can you, as a leader of leaders, motivate and monitor a LifeGroup leader to insure that he/she is able to say “yes” in answer to these questions?

Communicate:

[Together, read through the following excerpt from CVC's LifeGroup Resource Guide.]

BLUEPRINT

A LifeGroup leader is faithful to God and ministry. In essence, a Blueprint leads with integrity and models faithfulness, in your personal and public life, 1) practicing the spiritual disciplines, 2) being led by Holy Spirit, and 3) being obedient to God.

Such a leader is humble and God-dependent, striving to be mature in your walk with Christ so that your life will point others to Christ.

A Lifegroup Leader Consistently Practices the Spiritual Disciplines

Practicing the Spiritual Disciplines is essential for your own spiritual growth and enables you to remain firmly rooted in Christ as you lead others.

- Inward Disciplines of Prayer (Matthew 6:9), Meditation (Phil. 4:8), Fasting (Luke 5:35), and Study (Luke 2:46).
- Outward Disciplines of Simplicity, Solitude, Submission, and Service.
- Corporate Disciplines of Confession (James 5:16), Guidance (Acts 15:8), Celebration (1 Cor. 5:8), Worship (1 Cor. 14:26).

A Lifegroup Leader Lives by the Holy Spirit

As a LifeGroup leader you must empty yourself of "self" and invite the Holy Spirit to work in your heart and life—filling you with His power, wisdom, hope and love. This will enable you to live in freedom from the snares of the enemy.

- Displaying the fruit of the Spirit not the fruits of the flesh.
 - Fruit of the Spirit: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
 - Fruits of the Flesh: Sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, idolatry, hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness (Galatians 5).
- Consistently growing in the Fruit of New Life.
 - Beloved Child
 - Self-Feeder
 - Servant
 - Investor
 - Discipler
 - Missionary
- Using your Spiritual Gifts
 - Leadership (Acts 13:1-3, 15)
 - Teaching (John 21:15-17, 1 Tim. 4:6, 11; 5:17)
 - Exhortation (Acts 9:26-30)
 - Administration (Acts 15)
 - Shepherd/Pastor (Ephesians 4:11-12)
 - Ministry/Service (Acts 6:1-16, 2 Chronicles 34:9-13)
 - Evangelism (Acts 2:14-29; 8:4-13, 26-40)

*If you are not sure what your spiritual gifts are, we encourage you to take CVC's Spiritual Gifts Inventory: (<http://www.cvconline.org/spiritual-gifts-inventory>.)

A LifeGroup Leader is Obedient to God

To be the kind of leader that people will follow, honesty and authenticity are a must. Your credibility is established and continues to grow as you show your group that you are real, you live a life of honesty, and you are authentic in your relationships. Each of the following will help you pursue authenticity. Read slowly over the following statements that are essential for effective spiritual leadership and honestly ask if you can commit to them.

- ❖ I believe leadership begins on the inside of my life and moves outward.
- ❖ I determine to take no shortcuts in my service to God and to others.
- ❖ I commit to lead a disciplined life of quiet dependence on God.
- ❖ I will courageously face the truth about myself and, by the grace of God, intercept any potential fatal flaws that might destroy my integrity and ministry.
- ❖ I pledge to be led by God before I attempt to lead others.
- ❖ I commit to avoid the shallowness of conformity, choosing rather to minister from the unique and sacred trust given to me by God.
- ❖ I will face the transitions of my life with the grace and wisdom that God grants.
- ❖ I will accept the pain that life brings my way and allow it to make me a more understanding and able servant.
- ❖ I will pursue honest relationships with the people I lead.
- ❖ I will be safe and gentle in my dealings with those I lead.
- ❖ I will infuse life into people through the power of affirmation.
- ❖ I will wisely choose to invest in a few.
- ❖ I will choose to live last in my relationships.
- ❖ I will endure and finish well, relying upon the staying power of the Holy Spirit.

8) A LifeGroup Leader need not (indeed cannot!) be perfect, but she/he must be a Blueprint when it comes to living out the Inward, Outward, and Corporate spiritual disciplines. Why is this so vital? Let's brainstorm: How can a Leader of Leaders help a LifeGroup leader keep growing as a Blueprint in these areas?

9) A LifeGroup Leader must set the example for bearing the Fruit of New Life (FONL): Beloved Child, Self-Feeder, Servant, Investor, Disciple, and Missionary. Discuss as a group which FONL you think might be most difficult for a LifeGroup leader to model. After choosing 1 of the 6 fruit, develop a strategy for helping a LifeGroup leader to grow in that area. Write your strategy on a large Post-it.

10) Reread the 14 commitments (above) that express a LifeGroup Leader's obedience to God. Given that they are all important, which of these do you think is most vital to the health of an effective LifeGroup? Why?

11) Imagine that you overheard a LifeGroup Leader you are responsible to lead speaking harshly to his/her spouse. This, of course, violates the following commitment: I will be safe and gentle in my dealings with those I lead. How would you as a Leader of Leaders deal with this situation?

12) What is one thing you will commit to do in the next 2 weeks to encourage a LifeGroup leader to be a better Blueprint for others?

Care:

13) Like we did in our last session, take some time to share some ICNUs - I see in you... Share with one another at least one "Blueprint" quality do you see in each other.

14) How can I pray for you?