

Keeping Your First Wave of Guests

A Simple Plan for Keeping Your First Waves of People!

1. Prioritize _____ groups to the exclusion of all other types of groups.
2. Model _____
A common and fatal church planter mistake...
Keep Leadership Simple with a barebones Job description: "2 *Agendas* – 3 *Concerns*"
3. Lower the _____ to Group Leadership.
4. Promote the _____ of group involvement...
5. Offer _____ and ongoing options for getting connected.
6. Recruit your _____ and Set Clear Goals:
7. _____ your Leaders with simple tools.
8. Turn them Loose... _____ Your Groups.

Using 3/3rds Groups

Head – Heart – Hands

VALUE #1: Spiritual maturity is the process of being conformed to the image of Christ, through interaction with the Holy Spirit and others, and ultimately for the sake of others. We build our relationships on the basis of unconditional love. Eph 3:14-21

LOOK BACK (1/3rd of your time)

CARE: Catch up and share stories, struggles, or answered prayers from the week.

Check Up: (Never Skip This) How have I **obeyed** what I learned? Who have I **trained** in what I learned? With whom have I **shared** my story and/or God's story?

Vision: (Never Skip This) Remind ourselves of our mission with a Bible story, illustration, personal story, slogan, good quote, or a song that helps us think about lost people. Perhaps Acts 1:8; Matt 28:18-20; Luke 10:1-11; Matt 13:1-23.

LOOK UP (2/3rd of your time)

Prayer: Ask God what he wants us to hear and do.

Read and Discuss: Ask God to open eyes, ears, and hearts.

1. What did you like about this passage?
2. What did you find difficult or uncomfortable about this passage?

Read Passage Again:

3. What does this passage teach about Jesus/God?
4. What does this passage teach about us/people?

VALUE #2: Everyone is good, knowledgeable, & capable! Romans 15:14

LOOK FORWARD (3/3rd of your time)

OBEY. TRAIN. SHARE. (Never skip This)

5. How will you **obey** this passage?
6. Who will you **train** with this passage?
7. With whom will you **share** your story or the story of God?

VALUE #3: Everyone is a priest (1 Pet 2:9); with something to say (1 Cor 14:26); and something to do (1 Pet 4:10).

Practice: (Never Skip This) In small same-sex groups of 2-3, practice what you've committed to do in Questions 5-7. Example: role-play a conversation, or practice sharing your story or God's story.

Talk With God: Pray each other in small groups of 2-3. (**Meal:** If a Meal is Shared – best at the end.)

THREE RULES: SHARE SUCCINCTLY (BE BRIEF); EVERYONE GETS TO SHARE; NO INTERRUPTIONS

Stages of Involvement	PG Potential Guest	G1 1st Time Guest	G2 2nd Time Guest	G3 3rd Time Guest	A / NC Attender / New Convert	M Members	B Belongers
Retention Rate		25%	50%	75%	10%	50%	50-75%
Basic Attitude & Posture	I'm open to an invitation!	I'm checking you out!	I'm open and Interested!	I'm here if you want me.	I'm ready to grow / help	I'm Ready to belong	I love it here and I am important
Questions on their minds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enjoyable? ▪ Threatening? ▪ Will I be pressured? ▪ Will my friends be there? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Comfortable? ▪ Did I enjoy it? ▪ Did it meet a need? ▪ Will I return? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Do I fit in? ▪ Did people remember me? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Do You really want me? ▪ Get to know me. ▪ Plug me in, I can help. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How can I help? ▪ How do I study the Bible? ▪ Are groups available? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How should I be involved? ▪ What is our mission? ▪ How do I discover God's will? ▪ How do I grow? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Can I lead? ▪ What if I fail? ▪ Do I matter? ▪ How do I continue to grow?
Questions we must first ask and answer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What's on their minds? ▪ How can connect with them? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How can we get them to reconnect with us? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What brought them back? ▪ How can we get them to come back? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Where can they get involved? ▪ What small group can they join? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do we get them to join? ▪ Do our programs meet needs? ▪ Is it easy to get involved? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do we get them to step it up? ▪ What are our Next Steps – and do they know? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do we praise their efforts? ▪ How do we give the right to fail? ▪ How do we communicate ▪ How do we prevent burnout?
Ways to help them to the next stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Invitation from a friend ▪ Invitation cards ▪ Direct mail ▪ Focus Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Letter from pastor ▪ Welcome call ▪ Great Greeters ▪ Free Bible ▪ Focus Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Personal note from Pastor ▪ Greet by name ▪ Small Group invitation ▪ Free gift (CD of worship music) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Personal note from Pastor ▪ Personal visit ▪ Small Group call ▪ Free gift (CD of 1st sermon) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Newsletter ▪ Surveys ▪ Ministry clip ▪ Brochures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Individual Growth Plan ▪ College-style curriculum ▪ Volunteer Matrix matching ▪ Spiritual Gifts training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recognition ▪ Feedback meetings with a pastor ▪ Annual renewal retreat
Possible Teams to which impact this stage?	Outreach Team Marketing Team	Hostess Teams Outreach Team	Hostess Teams Small Groups Ministry Teams	Hostess Teams Small Groups Ministry Teams	Small Groups		

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Questions we must first ask and answer	▪	▪	▪	▪	▪	▪	▪
Ways to help them to the next stage	▪	▪	▪	▪	▪	▪	▪
Possible Teams to which impact this stage?							

(adapted from Winning the Backdoor War, Jonathan Gainsbrugh)