

SMALL-GROUP Training

A deeper discussion on hosting small groups for the express purpose of sharing the Gospel







FamilyLife® Local Core Strategy



Events (Winning)

Small Groups (Building)

Training (Sending)



Why Think Evangelistically about Small Groups?

- People need Jesus
- FamilyLife's small groups can
 - build credibility for Scripture
 - prepare hearts
 - share the Gospel

"For the Son of Man came to seek and save the lost."

Jesus





"Joe" & "Sally"







Christians in Outreach Groups

Christians can be included in outreach groups.

- Christians have marriage needs too.
- They are likely to share biblical applications.
- They may learn how to reach non-Christians by your example





Be real about your marriage.

Don't fabricate or embellish.

People can spot a faker.

Don't prejudge your invitation.



Small Groups → Permanent Life Change

"You make an impression on people from a distance. You make an impact on people when you get up close."

(Dr. Howard Hendricks)

"The Weekend to Remember creates a desire to change. Small groups make that desire a reality." (Jerry Wunder)



HOW and WHY This Module is Different From FamilyLife's Other Small-Group Training Sessions

- Learn to use minimal-commitment events to interest non-Christians or unchurched couples.
- Identify several ways to use small groups for outreach.
- Learn tips for leading outreach groups.
- Discuss a clear and organized way to share the gospel.

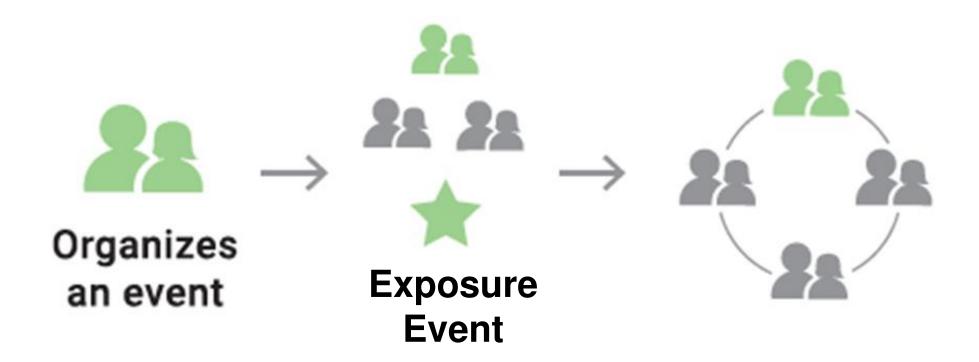


Assumptions

- You've gone through one of FamilyLife's Small Group Training.
- You've successfully led FamilyLife's small groups before and understand the discussion format.



The Process





Minimal-Commitment (Exposure) Events

- Cookout (backyard, park, lake)
- Christmas cookie exchange
- Luncheon with a testimony
- Super Bowl party
- Easter egg hunt
- Volleyball or other sports activity
- Home dessert with a testimony
- Catered dinner with speaker

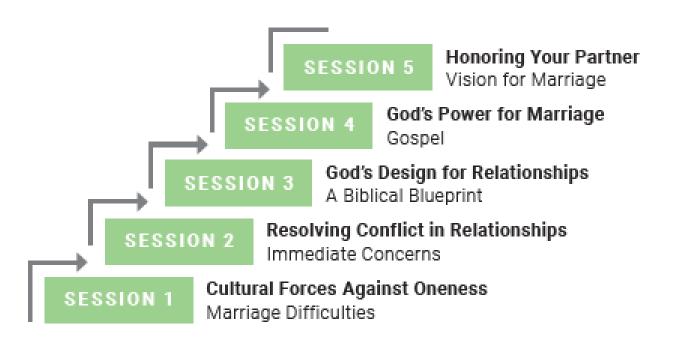
- Dinner party with testimony
- Valentine party or banquet
- Short marriage or parenting seminar
- Parenting talk at a community center
- Book club
- Dart/pool league
- Fishing/hunting weekend
- Houseboat party

Hmmmm ... what else could I/we do???



Couples Relationship Seminar A FamilyLife Resource

- Approved by FamilyLife's content team and executive leadership
- Designed to be nonthreatening and attract non-Christians
- Perfect for Exposure Events
- Easy to deliver
- Speaking notes and jokes provided
- Designed for "Joe"



Training for Trainers Training Module

FamilyLife's *Speaker Training* can help you to train more effectively

AND be equipped to conduct non-WTR exposure events.





Leading Outreach Small Groups

Lead a small group with non-Christians in the same manner as a regular group, with special attention to the following tips.

- a) Be patient
- b) Protect
- c) Create a non-threatening environment



Leading Outreach Small Groups (cont)

- d) Don't teach
- e) Have fun!
- f) Be flexible
- g) Respect privacy



Leading Outreach Small Groups (cont)

- h) Start and end on time
- i) Work together as a team
- Don't accidentally embarrass anyone
- k) Don't force people to talk



Remember ...

- As important as a good marriage is, it isn't as important as having a relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Effective evangelism in small groups requires more preparation and a non-religious approach.



Sharing the Gospel

You can share the gospel several different ways:

- 1. Many of the studies have an explanation of the gospel in the <u>appendix</u> or part of the study questions.
- 2. Give your <u>personal testimony</u> within the discussion context.
- 3. Set up a private appointment with a couple.
- 4. Invite the participants to <u>an event</u> where the Gospel will be shared



The Four

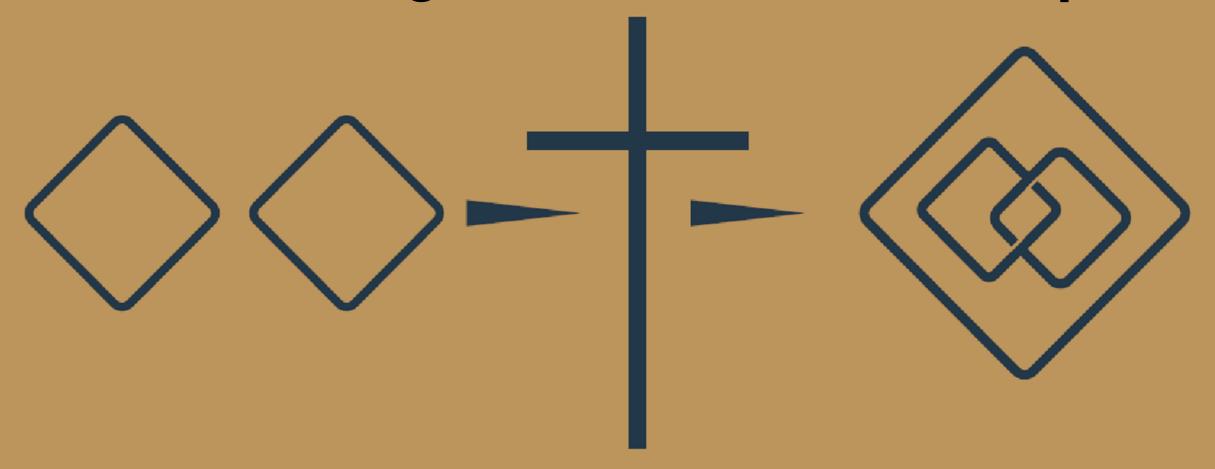
"a digital tool for a digital crowd"



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Your Marriage can Present the Gospel



Effective evangelism in small groups requires more preparation and a non-religious approach.



Trust God for Miracles