

The Ten Commandments of Small Group Environments

1. Pray for each and every member of your group.
2. Create a warm and inviting space.
3. Develop a “facilitator” mentality versus a “teacher” mentality.
4. Support one another. Don’t “fix” one another.
5. Be careful not to make someone else stumble.
 - a. Refrain from serving alcohol, overly sweet options, etc.
 - b. Include healthy snack options.
6. Embrace awkward silences.
7. Be cautious of “Christianese.”
 - a. Make sure that you define the words and phrases you use (e.g. Baptized in the Spirit, “born again,” “Gospel-centered,” etc.)
8. Be cognizant of time when people share.
 - a. Watch out for long prayer requests.
 - b. Be ready to bring the conversation back if someone takes it elsewhere.
9. Lead from a place of vulnerability.
 - a. If you don’t share your own questions/struggles, why should your group members?
10. Don’t put someone on the spot.
 - a. “John, what do you believe about resurrection?”
 - b. Only ask someone to pray if you know they feel comfortable.