

8 TIPS FOR RECRUITING MEMBERS TO YOUR CONNECT GROUP

by Pastor Chad Stuart

1. PRAY

“God, You already know who should be in this group, so please lead me to ask the people you want and lead them to say, ‘yes.’”

2. LOOK AROUND

Your extended family. Your friends. The church lobbies. Your neighborhood. Make a list of people you may want to invite.

3. BE OPEN TO GOD’S WILL

This goes along with praying. Don’t just pray for who you want in the group; pray for who God wants. Then be open to God surprising you with the names He puts into your mind! Add these people to your list of names to invite.

4. PICK A START DATE, A LOCATION, AND A TOPIC OR FOCUS

It makes inviting easier if you have a when, where, and why.

5. GET A CO-LEADER

If you get a co-leader and you each get one other person, or if it is a family group, and you both get one other family to join, you’ve doubled your group already, and you are ready to go (if you’re starting with three in your group, have everyone invite one other person). Add these names to your list.

6. NOW YOU’RE READY TO INVITE VERBALLY!

It might seem easier to send a text or to write an email, but it is also easier to say “no” to a text or an email. A verbal invite, whether over the phone or in person, shows care, intentionality, and the seriousness of your commitment to them. You also can answer immediate questions that will pop into the head of the invitee.

7. GIVE THE PERSON AN OUT.

Especially if you don’t know the person well, the best invite might be, “I am starting a connect group. We will do a sermon based connect group on Pastor Chad’s sermons each week. We’ll meet at my house for one hour on Tuesday nights at 7 pm; I live just around the corner from the church. Will you please come and check it out. If the group is not for you and you decide after a visit or two not to join, that is fine; no hard feelings.”

8. SEND A REMINDER!

I need reminders because I get busy. Others do, too, so send reminders, maybe even a couple before your first gathering and the next few after that, or until people are in the rhythm of a connect group being part of their weekly routine.

(cont’d on back)

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