

# Learning to Lead

## Session Six

### Work (Serve)

✓ Check each item below after you have discussed it with your Leader.

#### Preparation before you meet with your Leader:

- 1. Read and study **Creating a Safe Environment**. Be prepared to discuss what submitting to others means and its importance to our group.
- 2. Read and study **How to Help Our Group Identify Strengths**. Come prepared to share with your Leader a plan to help group members discover their own and each others spiritual gifts and strengths.
- 3. Read **Work (Serve)**. This is the fifth objective of our group.
- 4. Complete your own **Spiritual Gift Discovery** and be prepared to share your findings with your Leader.

#### To be completed with your Leader:

- 5. Share personal prayer and praise.
- 6. Discuss and (✓) check off points 1 through 4 above.

#### Planning to share with our group this month:

- 7. Finalize plans for birthing the new group. Be sure to help each person decide which group they will attend. Share your excitement for this new opportunity to invite new people to join each group.
- 8. Rejoice with the group in the results of the Outreach Event.

**Prayer and Closing:**

- 9. Pray for personal needs and needs of group members.
- 10. Set a Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_  
for our next Learning to Lead session.
- 11. Set a Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_  
for our next Dynamic Sharing training.
- 12. Attend the Explosive Growth Disciple-Making Process Sessions.  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_
- 13. Receive your Certificate as a Leader.
- 14. Begin your own group. Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 15. Arrange to meet with \_\_\_\_\_ your Coach.

# Creating a Safe Environment

In Session four we learned that relationships are built on integrity and integrity results from love and trust. Love for and trust in God or other people, comes only over time, as we get close enough to really know them. Our Life Group needs to be a safe environment so that we don't have to hide our real self or pretend to be something or someone we are not. In order for the group to be open and honest, the Leader needs to set the tone by his/her openness. The Leader can help the members get to know and understand themselves, God and others. We create a safe environment by learning to submit to each others strengths and protecting each other in our weaknesses.

## Submission to God and Each Other

The word submission like the words cancer and death strikes fear in the heart of most of us. The reason for this is that submission is death - death to my will, death to my way - my comfort or to anything else I may hold dear.

When we see death as the final end, it is very negative and to be avoided. God never sees it that way. To Him, death is the inevitable door through which we all must pass in order to enter into life - His life.

It is a constant biblical theme. Consider the following:

*“For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus’ sake, so that His life may be revealed in our mortal body”*

2 Corinthians 4:11

*“Unless a kernel of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds”*

John 12:24

Galatians 2:20. First we must experience “*not I*” before we can experience “*but Christ*”. That is God's way!

Submission is not compliance. Submission comes from the heart. Trust what God is doing in others to be able to submit all you have been given as for the Body of Christ.

We need to learn to declare our strengths. To declare our strengths we need to identify them. Once we have agreed on the strengths of others in our group we need to submit to them in those areas of strengths. It gives that person permission to use his strengths to influence others which benefits the Body of Christ.

## How to Help Our Group Identify Strengths

1. Complete the **Spiritual Gifts Discovery** worksheets to assess your own Spiritual Gifts.
2. Obtain enough copies of **Spiritual Gifts Discovery** for each group member (see Order Form). Explain how to work through them. They can complete this study on their own.

3. In the group, help them understand and appreciate how God has gifted them to serve the body of Christ.
4. Help the group members affirm each person's gifts and strengths.

## Identifying Our Strengths

- Give each person a blank piece of paper.
- Choose one person in your group. Other group member should share what they discern to be the strengths of the first person e.g.: friendly, caring, outgoing, wise etc.
- Leader ask: "***What is this person's Spiritual Gift(s)?***"
- The person being evaluated writes down the strengths and spiritual gifts shared about themselves and indicate if they agree or not.
- As a group indicate whether you agree with each strength and gift shared. Then discuss whether you are submitting to the person's strengths and spiritual gifts.
- Repeat all of this with each person as time allows or on subsequent weeks.

By submitting to each others strengths we complete each other, e.g. I may be weak in the areas that you are strong but I am strong in areas where you are weak. Working together as one, we will have strength in all areas.

## Work (Serve)

### To Develop Leaders Who Will Teach and Train Others

Service and good works are an important outflow of our Christian love and spiritual giftedness. Group members can serve in various ways. Jesus called out certain ones to lead the people and He spent most of his time developing them into Leaders. We must develop Leaders today because without them the people will not be able to accomplish the ministry of Christ.

***"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others."*** II Timothy 2:2

***"It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."*** Ephesians 4:11-13

*“It is a trustworthy statement; if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do.”*

I Timothy 3:1

*“Whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave; just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”*

Matthew 20: 26-28

### **Work (Serve) Discipleship (One-to-One - Complete One Session Each Week):**

(Apprentice or Leader co-ordinates)

- During this training the trainer and trainee meet at a convenient time and place each week to complete a session in either Dynamic Basics, Dynamic Discipling or Dynamic Sharing (see leaders guides for details).
- Understanding and applying our Spiritual Gifts.
- Learning to Lead sessions for you and your Apprentice Leader as you begin your own Life Group.
- Leaders Who Lead sessions for you to continue your growth as a Life Group Leader, under the personal care of your Coach.