

# LEADING AN EFFECTIVE MULTIPLYING GROUP MEETING:

- Pray for the group members and prepare by completing the manual assignments and reading the **Multiplying Leader Guide** material before each session.
- Follow the pace that accurately provides the time your group members need to complete the assignments. We recommend progressing slowly, even taking 6-8 months to lay the foundation and develop strong relationships, and solidify/ implement new discipleship habits. Trying to rush discipleship doesn't allow for authentic life transformation.
- Protect the trust among group members by having a closed group – do not allow new individuals to join after the meetings begin.
- Implement leadership skills that lead to respectful yet challenging discussions:
  - o Call on individuals to share, read and pray (after learning the confidence levels of group members).
  - o Confirm members completion of weekly assignments. Casually glance at their manuals. If there is consistent issue of incomplete work, approach the member privately to ask if they need help.
  - o Select discussion questions prior to the group meeting that best fit the needs of your members. Do not feel every page or blank has to be covered each week.

**Example:** “Turn to page 83 and share response to question...”

- o Allow short periods of silence for participants to process and organize their thoughts.
- o Respect each person's comments – encourage honest vs expected answers. Immediately interrupt any derogatory or judgmental remarks towards any member's questions or answers.
- o Ask questions to help members move from ideas to application – ask them to share examples of a personal experience or observation of others to explain their thought.
- o Ask open-ended questions that can't be answered simple 'yes' or 'no'.
- o Encourage discussion focuses on Scripture vs personal opinion – the Bible is the ultimate authority for discipleship.
- o As a leader, limit your talking to about 25%-35% of the group time; encourage and engage all group members to contribute to the discussions.