

"And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10: 24-25

Small Groups Ministry Presentation to Parish

September 30, 2018

Benefits of a Small Groups Ministry

1. Personal Discovery

Personal discovery happens in small groups better than large groups for a number of reasons. You can learn, ask questions, involve yourself in the lives of others, and generally make yourself vulnerable among others doing the same in small groups. Spiritual growth happens with others, in community, with open lines of communication and freedom to speak into one another's lives.

2. Smaller Communities Are More Effective

Smaller communities act more like, well, *communities*. The kind of community we are advocating requires a level of intimacy easily lost as numbers grow. You simply cannot know everyone beyond a certain point, and you likely will not open up about your struggles in a large group of people you don't know.

3. Deeper Friendships

Small groups create opportunities for deeper friendships that double as accountability. When people know you, really know you, your life becomes far more transparent. Others learn to understand you and will support you when you're struggling, creating opportunities to deal with life's difficulties as they surface.

4. Maximum Participation

Small groups deliver maximum participation. They allow for opportunities to discuss issues within a small group of trusted friends. Our church's core values and mission can be supported and participated in together. Lives are sharpened and relationships valued and nurtured. Small groups are an absolute necessity for involving as many people as possible in the life and ministry of your church.

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2015/march/4-reasons-small-groups-are-vital-to-your-churchs-health.html>

Types of groups

- Fellowship
- Study
- Care and Support
- Task-Oriented

Examples of Groups

- Book discussions
- Bible study
- Young adult group
- Cancer support group
- Neighborhood groups
- Prayer groups
- Homily discussion groups
- Mom's support group
- Homeschooling group
- Walking/hiking group
- What other ideas do you have? Write them here.

Questions for us to consider about creating a Small Group Ministry:

- What is God's desire for our small-group ministry?
- What does a successful small-group ministry at our church look like in 1 year, 5 years, and 10 years?
- What do I think will work in our cultural context?
- What do I think won't work in our cultural context?

<https://www.smallgroups.com/articles/2015/right-way-to-do-small-groups.html?paging=off>

The Effective Church Model – AM2 Videos (Bill Marianes)

<http://stewardshipcalling.com/effective-church-model/> at the 1:02:05 mark