

DEVELOPING
A small
GROUPS
STRATEGY
CLIFF ATFIELD

INTRODUCTION

There is a road map you can follow when developing your small groups ministry. In this breakout, we'll talk about the key principles that form the framework of our small groups strategy. We'll discuss how you can contextualize them to your adult ministry, regardless of the size.

I. CONTEXT FOR DEVELOPING A SMALL GROUPS STRATEGY

- A. Leading a small group is to developing a groups strategy as driving a car is to _____ a car. A car and a groups strategy are both systems.
- B. Every system is built of essential _____.
- C. The goal for today is to further your ability to develop and implement an _____ groups strategy based on your context.

II. FIVE COMPONENTS OF AN EFFECTIVE SMALL GROUPS STRATEGY

- A. Guiding Purpose
1. Steering questions:
 - *Why does our church have a small groups ministry?*
 - *How is our strategy helping us accomplish our _____?*
 2. Our answer:
 3. Guiding principle: In order to grow spiritually, you need to be connected relationally.

NOTES |

B. Point Leadership

1. Steering question: *Who is empowered, responsible, and accountable for the _____ of our groups system?*

2. Our answer:

3. Guiding principle: "First _____, then what." —Jim Collins, *Good to Great*

C. Leader _____

1. Steering question: *What information and skills are important to leading well?*

2. Our answer:

3. Guiding principle: Teach _____ for more.

D. Coaching Structure

1. Steering question: How are we _____ information and skills to group leaders?

2. Our answer:

3. Guiding principle: _____ leaders go further, faster.

E. Connection Solution

1. Steering question: *How are we*
_____ *groups?*

2. Our answer:

3. Guiding principle: Think
_____, not programs.

CONCLUSION

1. No *one* small group strategy will work for everyone.
2. Each strategy will only be as strong as its weakest component.
3. Every strategy may not be infinitely scalable, but the questions are.
4. Ask and answer these questions continually.