

Session 1

3 Roles for Guiding Groups



Ken Braddy

LifeWay Christian Resources

kenbraddy.com

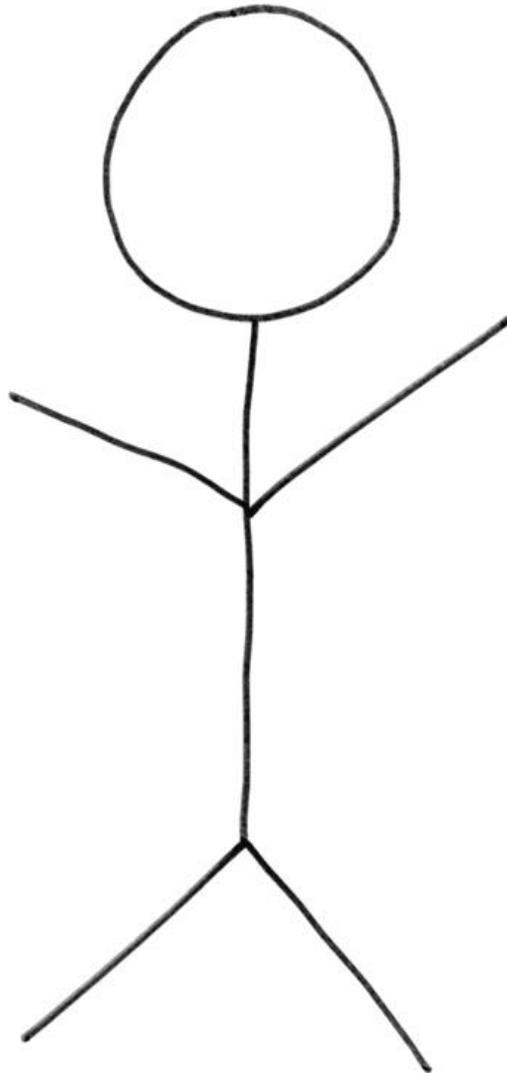
@kenbraddy

ken.braddy@lifeway.com

name

Let's draw the perfect group leader...

- What roles does this person have?
- How can you represent those roles by adding elements to this stick figure?



3 Roles for Guiding Groups



Teachers guide the group to study and apply the Bible

Shepherds guide group members to connect in fellowship and ministry

Leaders guide the group to be on mission

Teacher

“Real teaching requires a relationship” (p.14)

How might a Bible study be different if the group leader had relationships with group members?

The Mission Isn't "9AM to Noon"

"If you think Sunday School is about Sunday morning, you don't see the job"

Hebrews 1:1-2

"Long ago God spoke to the fathers by the prophets at ***different times*** and ***in various ways***. In these last days, He has ***spoken to us by His Son.***"

Name a few things that group leaders do to bore their group members:

7 Characteristics of God's Communication Style (in the Old Testament):

1. Memorable
2. _____
3. Visual
4. _____
5. Multi-_____
6. Captivating
7. Incarnational

Shepherd

Shepherding Requirements

1. _____ for the sheep
2. Constant _____
3. Sense of _____

My favorite verse about shepherding...

Amos 3:12 – “The Lord says: As the shepherd snatches two legs or a piece of an ear from the lion’s mouth, so the Israelites who live in Samaria will be rescued with only the corner of a bed or the cushion of a couch”

5 kinds of sheep you must care for...



1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____ **members**
5. _____ **attenders**

Leader

Guiding the Group's Mission

When you hear the word "leader," who comes to mind?

A Leader's Actions

1. _____
2. Release
3. Re_____

REACH

"You don't have to cross an ocean to find unreached people"

7 Signs You're Ready to Reach People:

1. Adequate _____ (80/20 rule)
2. Extra _____
3. _____ for guests
4. _____ teacher
5. Open _____
6. _____ curriculum
7. Nametags

RELEASE

“The adult Sunday School is not a storehouse, it is a _____ house.” – Dr. Daryl Eldridge

Releasing People Won't Hurt Your Group!

“In the church that was at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon...Lucius the Cyrenian, Manaen, a close friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul...the Holy Spirit said, ‘Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work I have called them to.’ Then after they had fasted, prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them off.” – **Acts 13:1-3** (HCSB)

“The natural inertia of any group is to turn inward” – David Francis

2 Ways to Reproduce:

1. Reproduce the group (“franchise, split, birth, start”)
2. Reproduce disciples

Discipleship Requires Relationship

“Most Christians have divorced the teachings of Jesus from the methods of Jesus, and yet they expect the results of Jesus...**Discipleship is the emphasis. Relationships are the method...**”

Discipleship Requires **Relationship**

“...Jesus invited people into relationships with himself; he loved them and in the process showed them how to follow God. **His primary method was life-on-life.**” –p.33

The Secret of the Sequoia Tree

- 300 feet tall
- 1500-2000 years old
- Roots are only 4 feet deep, but they intertwine
- Sequoias don't grow alone – always in groves or rows

Preaching Alone Won't Produce Relationships or Disciples

“Preaching to make disciples is like going to the nursery and spraying crying babies with milk and saying you just fed the kids...**discipleship involves more than preaching and listening**” – p.25

Implications for Sunday School and other Bible Study Groups

1. Groups should be **smaller**
2. Groups should be **newer**
3. Groups should be **interactive**

Remember, you can't disciple people from a distance...