REVITALIZING YOUR GROUP

Is your group in a rut? Here are a few refresher tips that can lead to revitalizing your small group.

Have variety in your content.

Go through a book of the Bible, use the <u>Talk It Over guides</u> to discuss a Sunday message, check out curriculum from our Resource Library, schedule a night to just enjoy one another's company over dinner, read a book together or try rotating through all of these. Anything can turn stale if you're always doing the same thing. Don't let a lack of creativity hurt your group experience.

Serve together.

Participating in serving projects as a small group is a great way to bond, spice things up, and learn new things about each other. Specific service opportunities are available each month through <u>Second Saturday Serve</u> and the <u>Helping Hands Outreach</u>. Groups can also serve in variety of ways with our <u>NewPointe Mission Partners</u>. Contact these local ministries and discover ways to join them in serving our community.

Have a regular prayer discussion.

If it's not already an active part of your small group experience, see if someone in your group is willing to regularly collect prayer requests and e-mail them out to the group each week. Most of us are bad at remembering details, but something as simple as keeping an e-mail chain of group needs and celebrations can make a huge difference.

Share your stories.

Our personal stories are one of the most powerful pieces of us and yet often the least explored. Whether you've been meeting for years or weeks, it's important to hear (or re-visit) each others' stories. Use the <u>What's Your Story</u> resource tool to help your group members share the key people, places, and events of their lives.

Share a meal together.

If you're not already, include food in your meetings. It may sound simple, but you'll be amazed at the walls that come down simply by enjoying a meal together.

Rotate meeting locations.

Have everyone in the group take turns hosting, or hold your meeting at a restaurant or the park. Changing the environment might give your group some new perspective.

Take time off a study and take turns leading.

Give each person in the group a week (or two or four) to have ownership over the group and lead discussion on whatever is of interest to them.

Go away together.

We know life gets busy and there's not always the opportunity, but if it's possible – do it. Bring your families or sneak away on your own for a weekend or even just a night for extended time of bonding and relationship building.

Been together awhile? Have an affirmation session.

And make a night out of it. Go out to dinner or set something up you'll enjoy, and encourage one another. Let your group know why you're there and how each person is a blessing to have in your life.



smallgroups@newpointe.org