



MOBILIZING LIFEGROUPS

FOR OUTREACH

**IT'S
TIME TO
GET OFF
THE
COUCH...**



START WITH PRAYER...UNDERSTAND THE PURPOSE...START SLOWLY...DESIGNATE A POINT PERSON...

01

02

03

04

*...and get
your hands
dirty!*

...BE FLEXIBLE...TAKE TIME TO DEBRIEF...SERVE REGULARLY...INVITE OTHERS

05

06

07

08

01

Ask God to show you where He has uniquely made your Life Group to serve
Where is God calling your group to serve?
Where is there a need? What are group members passionate about? Where is there, perhaps, an organization that is working to meet that need and could use a little help? What passions has He placed on the group members' hearts? Are there some needs right in your own neighborhood?

start with prayer

Commit your plans to the Lord, and your plans will be established. Proverbs 16:8

02

Serving others, whether through a one-time project or on-going involvement, is not a way to earn points with God. Rather, it is a way to open ourselves and allow God to form us. It is obedience to Scripture. By serving others, we allow God to develop our compassion. Serving helps others, but also forms us spiritually. By imitating Christ, who came to serve, we grow in Christ-likeness. It is not about impressing God, or others. Be sure to avoid self aggrandizing social media posts after service projects.

understand the purpose

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.
Ephesians 2:10

03

Give the group time to process the idea of doing a serving project, and make sure everyone has input. You may want to start by selecting a one-time project. This will ensure that the area of service is a good fit before you make a long term commitment. Make sure that you avoid making statements like, "We will definitely be back!" unless you and the group have already committed to serving regularly.

start slowly

Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed. 1 Timothy 6:18-19

04

As you pray about where to serve, you may notice that some people in the group have a lot of passion about serving, or about a particular need. Ask one of them to be the organizer of your service project. That person confirms with the shelter that your group will be there, coordinates who's coming and what each will bring, and figures out transportation.

designate a point person

Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task. Acts 6:3

05

Some of your group members may be reluctant to go. That's okay. Group members should always know they are invited to the service project, but don't force it. Look for other ways to include them, such as asking them to donate food. When they hear the amazing stories, over time they may get excited enough to join you!

be flexible

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6

06

Ask group members to talk about what they're learning from serving. Are they feeling guilt or gratitude for their own privilege? Let them process. Then, push them to go deeper. How does their affluence isolate them, for example? How do the poor have to trust God more than the well-off? Allow the group to wrestle with the feelings and questions that come up. Service projects, especially ongoing ones, will help your group bond, and help individual members to grow in their faith. Perhaps this is the next step your group needs to take.

take time to debrief

*I will meditate on all Your work And muse on Your deeds.
Psalm 77:12*

07

While one-time projects can be great, real life-change happens when you serve consistently. Not everyone in the group may be able to make it to a one-time project. If you do something monthly or quarterly, more group members will have opportunities to serve. Perhaps you want to adopt a school in a needy area and volunteer to tutor there on a regular basis, or help out at a food pantry once a month.

serve regularly

Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary. Galatians 6:9

08

Non-Christians are often more open to doing a service project than they are to coming to church or a Life group. Inviting non-group members to come along on a service project can often be a first step toward inviting them into the group itself.

While you serve look for opportunities to invite others to Christ or to church. Your service and selfless care for others is one of the most potent evangelistic tools of all.

invite others

Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven. Matthew 5:16

*If our church were to disappear today
would our community ever notice?*

