

Top 10 Ways to Grow Your Life Group

10. **Enlist Greeters!** The atmosphere of your life group is determined at the doorway. People are looking for a group that is friendly, inviting, and open to receiving new people.
9. **Be Early, Not On Time!** Make sure you as a leader or your greeters arrive before anyone else. Nobody likes to enter an empty room, especially guests!
8. **Encourage Your Life Group to "Build & Bring!"** A Life Group party or outing is a great opportunity to invite people who are not connected to Calvary.
7. **Follow-Up With Guests!** Sending an email, making a phone call, or writing a personal note to people who visited your Life Group will let them know they were recognized and appreciated. Special note cards have been designed for you to use and you can find these note cards at a display counter in the lobby near the first floor entrance of CCHS. A drop box is also located on the counter for you to drop the cards off to be posted and mailed for your convenience. Don't forget to get first-time guests name and information so that you can effectively follow-up. Guest registration forms are available in your attendance books to receive their information.
6. **Organize Into a T.E.A.M.!** No one person can fully carry out all the responsibilities of a Life Group. Share these responsibilities with the gifted people in your Life Group. It will create ownership and gets people involved in ministry. Click on the "T.E.A.M. Positions and Responsibilities" heading listed on the Leadership Link to discover the positions and different areas of responsibilities. Life Groups that organize into a T.E.A.M. are more efficient and have built a higher level of community than those who are unstructured.
5. **Meet The Needs Within Your Group!** A sign of a healthy Life Group is when it knows the needs of its members and meets those needs. From making hospital visits, to providing meals, to throwing baby showers, a healthy Life Group cares for one another.
4. **Plan At Least 4 Fellowships a Year!** Parties and fellowships always bring a Life Group closer together. Don't let Christmas

be the only time your Life Group gets together, have fun throughout the year!

3. **Get Your Group Connected to E-Group!** Calvary has a software system that allows your group to effectively communicate prayer requests, praise reports, and up-coming group events. If you have a "techie" in your group, enlist them to get your group on-line with E-Groups. Have them contact Howard Parker, Calvary's Church Administrator at hparker@calvarybaptist.org

2. **Teach A Relevant Lesson!** There are always three parts to a good Bible Study Lesson: (A) Approach, (B) Bible Content, and (C) Conclusion. Most teachers spend a majority of their preparation time on the "B" or Bible Content part of the lesson. However, if you were to ask, what is the most important part of any lesson people would agree that the "application" or "C" Conclusion is the most important. When you prepare a lesson always ask yourself, "What would I stop, start, or change in my life as a result of this lesson?" A relevant lesson is a lesson people can live out the moment they leave your Life Group. Ask questions, get people talking, and then ask them to make a commitment or change.

Announcing the # 1 Way to Grow a Life Group!

1. **Pray for Growth!**

Paul wrote in I Corinthians 3:6, "I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow." Apart from God there is no growth. We must be careful to never "program" God out of our area of ministry. We can plan great parties, teach a relevant lesson, and contact guest who have visited our Life Group, but the cause of spiritual and numerical growth comes from God. This is something we must never forget.

In fact, Matthew 10:37 says, "Ask the Lord of the harvest therefore to send out workers into His harvest field." Don't miss this important request of God. If you desire growth and people to help you grow, then you must ask God for it to happen. This may be a good time for you to pause and ask God to grow your Life Group. Make this a weekly reminder and request for your prayer life.