

Trouble Shooting Issues

- **Constant Talker:**
 - Ask, "What does someone else think?"
 - Use body language to address other people.
 - Direct questions to other people by name.
 - Talk privately with the person and ask them to help get others involved.
- **Some People Never Talk:**
 - Ask easier questions.
 - Direct easy questions their way.
 - Enlist the help of other group members to draw them out.
 - Express appreciation (publicly and privately) for the contributions they make.
- **The Life Group is Not Interested in the Topic:**
 - Play "devil's advocate" (take the opposition and make them defend what they believe.)
 - Ask "Why?" questions.
 - Drop the topic and find what interests them.
- **A Life Group Member Reaches an Obviously Wrong Conclusion:**
 - Ask, "What does anyone else think?"
 - Redirect their attention to Scripture which leads to a correct conclusion.
 - Speak with them one-on-one if the wrong conclusion is still held.
- **The Group Drifts Into Irrelevant Tangents:**
 - Be flexible; sometimes the issues need to be discussed even though they are not scheduled.
 - Explicitly bring the discussion back on topic.
 - Agree to discuss the topic at a later date.
- **A Difficult Question is Raised:**
 - Don't be afraid to say, "I don't know."
 - Agree to research the question and bring the answer next week.
- **A Controversial Question is Raised:**
 - Set ground rules before the discussion begins.
 - We acknowledge that Christians hold different views on a variety of topics.
 - Scripture must substantiate all viewpoints.
 - We are not going to settle this question for all Christians for all time in this one discussion.
 - Focus on what the divergent opinions have in common.

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