

# VIDEO 2: STARTING A SMALL GROUP

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Starting a small group can feel overwhelming. However, by focusing on the most essential things, all of the to-do list items can come into focus.

Whether you are new to starting a small group, getting ready to begin a new small group trimester, or have been leading a small group for years, Christian Rodriguez gives some good spiritual and practical insight on tools to implement when starting a small group.

## STARTING A SMALL GROUP

1. Prayer- God has called you to lead, so pray about what God would have for your small group
  - Your prayers have power (James 5:16, ESV)  
Your prayers help your small group through hardships (Ephesians 6:18, MSG)!
  - Your prayers help prepare you for the will of God for your group (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, ESV)!
2. Ask the question: Who are my people?
  - Ask God what specific people He is asking you to reach and lead.
  - Who has God given you a passion for? i.e. An empty nester feeling called to lead a young adults group or a young professional feeling the burden to reach college students
3. What is your small group mission?
  - Think about one sentence that encapsulates what God has asked you to do with the people he has called you to reach.
  - That mission becomes the culture of your group and should be consistently repeated.
4. Take stock of your resources
  - What are your strengths and weaknesses?
  - What does your availability look like and what time can you set aside for your small group?
  - What responsibilities can you share with others in your small group?

## GROUP DISCUSSION:

1. How can you implement the practice of praying for your small group into your everyday life?
2. Take a few moments to think about those who you are most passionate to see come to know Jesus. Share your thoughts with the group and then pray that the Lord would help you reach these individuals through your small group.
3. Have you developed a small group mission statement? Take 5 or so minutes to craft a draft. Once you have completed this draft, find a partner and share.
4. What weaknesses or limitations do you have? Are these things someone in your group could eventually assist with? i.e. Is hospitality a weakness? Consider asking your church if someone would be willing host your group.