CELL STRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

Biblical Reference: “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer” (Acts 2:42).

I. CLASS OBJECTIVES

1. To examine the basic structure of cells (Life Groups).

2. To discover how to accurately and effectively carry out your group.

3. To recognize what hinders the development of a successful group.

4. To learn the Ten Commandments of the Life Group.

III. INTRODUCTION

A key to determining the success of the cell vision (Life Groups) is the preparation of each leader in the different areas of their lives. Alongside this preparation, Life groups need a defined structure so that success will not be hindered. God is a God of order, and He asks us to do everything in an organized manner.

“But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way” (1 Corinthians 14:40).

“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus…” (Colossians 3:17).

This helps us to make sure we are not improvising, but that we are committed to our groups. To reach our goals and enjoy the benefits of the Life group, we need to apply certain principles that can be found in the Early Church. This lesson looks at the structure and development of the group. The goal is that you become a successful Life group leader. Let’s look at what will help us to have a successful group.

IV. LESSON: CELL STRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

A. Perseverance – The Foundation for Life Group Multiplication

1. It is important to persevere when working with cells so that the group will be strengthened and multiply. Every Life Group should contribute to the growth of the church. We must persevere in studying the Word, in fellowship, in sharing and also in prayer (Acts 2:42).
2. Perseverance also means not losing heart when people reject our invitation to be part of our group. A leader of faith tries again and sets aside any failure because their eyes are fixed on Jesus (Luke 5:1-5). He's just looking for us to do our part, by doing what is possible, and He will do His part, the impossible.

3. The Life Group is the bridge between the people and the congregation, enabling every person to receive more care and attention. Everyone has the opportunity to hear the Gospel, to be consolidated and to be built up, allowing their relationship with God and with others to be restored and strengthened.

   *He “…will Himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast” (1Peter 5:10b).*

B. Life Group Meeting Structure

1. Welcome: Welcoming people lovingly makes a difference. Briefly greet each other and welcome those who are new.

2. Cast vision: Go over Encounter; Classes; Water Baptism dates.

3. Message: This is on your facilitator Guide. Be prepared. Pray, go over the lesson. Teach simply, using clear language. Be relevant. Know your audience.

4. Prayer: Pray for your Prayer of 3 and the empty chair

5. Ministry to attendees: This is the moment to allow the Holy Spirit to take the Word that was shared and transform the live and hearts of the attenders. Pray for the needs of the groups.

Note: Make time in the meeting to worship God with an offering

Also, take attendance of who came and who did not. The goal is to contact those who were missing and ask them if they need any specific help.

**Avoid making the following mistakes:**

- Allowing someone unauthorized to lead, minister or lay hands on the people.
- Allowing the attendees to take the lead, causing the leader to lose control of the group.
- Allowing arguments to start.
- Not showing new people care or showing indifference to any who are present
- Taking more time than agreed upon. A Life Group should be no longer than an hour and 15 minutes.
- Constantly changing the location, day and time of the meeting.
C. The Commandments of the Life Group

1. Love the Life Group Vision.
   Love for what we have and what we do breaks any possibility of doubt and prepares the way for us to obtain success. If we do not love working with the Life Groups, we will never see the results that this vision brings (see 1Corinthians 13:2-3).

2. Do not digress from the Life Group Vision.
   It can be very easy to step outside the vision, almost without noticing. This is why it is so important to be faithful to the principles established and to persevere in them until you obtain the desired results.

3. Do not allow the Life Group to be unfruitful.
   Groups should fulfill their evangelistic function, i.e. every attendee should focus on going out to find people and invite them to the group so they can be won for Christ.

4. Meet once a week.
   During the days before the Life Group, the host, leader and the other members should commit to visiting neighbors, relatives and friends to invite them to the group.

5. The Life Group should help with family restoration.
   The group should be prepared to care for this need. It should seek to help restore the relationships of family members.

6. Make every member a leader.
   Regardless of their condition when they arrive, every person who comes to a Life Group should be seen as a potential leader. We see them the way God sees them.

7. Pray for the holiness of the group.
   When sin is allowed or tolerated, the group starts to deteriorate. We need to be radical in the face of sin and not entrust the cell to someone who is leading a double life (see Hebrews 12:14).

8. Do not work on someone else’s foundation.
   The members of each Life Group should be faithful to their group and should not attend different people’s meetings as this can cause confusion and affect the process of formation. Leaders should focus on winning the souls that will form part of their group, not invite people to their group who already have a leader (see Romans 15:20).

9. Do not allow gossip.
   Gossip, criticism and complaining should never be allowed within the group. We cannot allow our Life Groups to speak badly about another member, brother, pastor, leader or about the church. It is important to be mindful about how we speak within our groups. (see Philippians 2:14).
10. Strategically develop goals.

The Leader, as well as every member of the group, should have defined growth goals that require effort on their part and the supernatural power of God. These goals should be clear and should lead to multiplication.

V. CONCLUSION

The Cell (G12) Vision guarantees success in multiplying the church. Nevertheless, this success relies on leaders respecting the structure of the weekly meetings. If we respect the parameters established for the one-hour meetings, as well as the ten commandments of the Life Group, we will undoubtedly be successful. If you are not yet following the guidelines given in this lesson in your weekly meetings, the time has come to begin to do so and you will notice a difference.