

BUILDING SPIRITUAL FAMILY LIFE

"You have heard me teach many things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Teach these great truths to trustworthy people who are able to pass them on to others" (2 Timothy 2:2 NLT).

A,B,C Format – It's very important to follow the pattern called "ABC" (call it anything you want to call it). Divide your meeting into one-thirds and faithfully stick with the purpose of each one-third. This is designed help lay the foundation for meaningful family life. The format is easy to learn and easy to follow, and it is also very transferable.

A – Ask (accountability leading to worship & praying for each other)

1. Ask, "What is one thing you are thankful for (or a testimony of what God has done)?" Then, "Let's take time to thank God with short prayers of thanksgiving". Use this as a basis to lead into worship.
2. Share any words of knowledge, prophetic words and stay with whatever God is doing.
3. Ask, "Do you have a need to share or a sin you want to confess?" Then, "Let's pray short prayers for each other".
4. Ask, "What did you learn in last week's study & how it's going applying it to your life".

B - Bible study – Use the discovery Bible approach

1. Read. Ask someone to read the passage of Scripture.
2. Restate. Ask someone else to restate it in their own words. Ask the rest of the group to add anything that was left out – without lots of discussion. (*Asking at random one person to tell the passage in their own words makes the group pay good attention while it's being read!*)
3. Reflect. Take 3-5 minutes to reflect in silence. No discussion first. The Holy Spirit is the teacher!
4. Relate. Share one thing each person has from the passage. Each one share once before anyone shares twice.

C – Commit - to pray and obey

This part of the meeting is about putting into practice what has been learned. It's about obedience to the Word and sharing what we've learned with others who don't know Jesus.

1. "How are you going to apply this truth you have discovered in your life this week?"
2. "Who will you share it with?"
3. Pray. "Write the names of the people you will share your discovery with"
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3."Let's pray for them now in groups of two".
4. Obey. "Let's practice how we will share with a friend or family member what we learned today". It is crucial to spend a few minutes at the end of each session practicing how the truth that was learned will be shared with the people you are praying for.

From time to time, invite your group to get involved in a combined task or mission for a short period. Working together on a common task builds group life.

Also, as regularly as you can, eat a meal together. A family that eats together stays together.