

*“What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses,  
commit to faithful people who will be able to teach others also.”  
(2 Timothy 2:2)*

## Multiplication Overview

As you approach the last 3 months of your D-Group, it's important to consider how you can invest in others just as the people in your group have invested in you. All throughout Scripture we see a theme of being “sent people” who never allow the blessings of the gospel to stop with them. Instead they embrace the promise God gave to Abraham that we are blessed to be a blessing. With the idea of living sent in mind, we want to help you transition from your current group into your future group, with the goal of being as big a blessing in the lives of new members as it has been for you.

### Conversation 1: Why, Who, and When

Approximately 12 weeks before the end of your D-Group, have this conversation. Read the passages below aloud with your group:

- Genesis 12:1-3
- Matthew 28:16-20
- 2 Timothy 2:1-2

#### **Why Do We Multiply?**

Next, discuss the following questions as a group:

- As we discuss multiplying our D-Group, which of these passages connects the most with you?
- How has the Lord used this D-Group to bless you in your walk over the last several months?
- If we love one another, multiplying our group should actually feel hard! However, imagine having more groups like this as part of our church family. Who in your life could benefit from a group like this?

#### **Who Will Multiply?**

- After our D-Group ends, do you hope to launch out and lead a D-Group?
- If yes, how equipped do you feel to lead your own group?
- If no, what is your plan to surround yourself in biblical community and make disciples?

#### **When Will We Multiply?**

- We are about three months away from the end of our D-Group. What obstacles do you foresee that would prevent you from being ready at this time?
- Based on our conversation today, what would be the best target date for our group to multiply and start new groups?
- Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

### **Bonus: Am I Ready To Lead a D-Group?**

Often, we believe lies that prevent us from stepping out and leading our own groups. Here are four of the biggest misconceptions about D-Group leaders:

- **Lie #1= D-Group leaders know everything about the Bible.** Being a leader doesn't mean you are a Bible expert. When people ask questions that you don't know, one of the best answers is "I don't know, but let's figure it out together."
- **Lie #2= D-Group leaders don't have any ongoing struggles.** Leaders don't need to be perfect, just perfectible. They are open with others about their struggles and know that it's okay to not be okay, but it's not okay to stay there.
- **Lie #3= D-Group leaders always do their weekly inputs.** A leader should be consistent in their disciplines and committed to attending weekly, but they are not expected to be perfect. They should set the example as they aim for progress, not perfection.
- **Lie #4= D-Group leaders are all experienced leaders.** Every individual has to step out and lead for the first time. You are one step ahead of someone in life. Identify who that is and ask them to follow you as you follow Christ.

If you are worried that you may not be ready to lead a group, share with your group your hesitations and ask what they would recommend. Whether you lead alone or alongside someone else, consider how you can provide a group like this one to someone who doesn't have one.

### **For Next Week**

We will brainstorm names of people that we could potentially invite into our next D-Group. These people should be faithful, available, and teachable. Over the next week, pray about who you could invite. Also, over the next 12 weeks, we will rotate who leads the group. Before launching out, we will all have the opportunity to facilitate our time together.

## **Conversation 2: Identify Potential Members**

Approximately 11 weeks before the end of your D-Group, have this conversation. First, read below aloud to your group:

**As with everything in the discipleship process, we take our cues from Jesus.** Before he selected disciples, he spent time in prayer (Luke 6:12-16), so that's where we should begin too. Ask God to make it clear to you, regarding the 2-4 people you should invite into your D-Group.

Remember that **the word disciple means "learner"**, so begin by asking God to send you men or women who have a desire to learn and grow. A helpful way to identify people to invite into your group is to look for F.A.T. people: faithful, available, and teachable.

- **Faithful:** Is this person faithful in following Jesus at whatever stage of life they are currently?
- **Available:** Is this person available enough to fulfill the time commitment of a D-Group?
- **Teachable:** Does this person display a humble desire to learn from those around him or her?

It doesn't matter if a person has been walking with Jesus for two months or two decades. If they have a track record of being faithful, available, and teachable, then they would be a great person to consider inviting into your D-Group.

### Group Exercise

Next, write the name of each of your current group members. Below each one, list the names of F.A.T. people that they will **begin praying about inviting into a D-Group**.

Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

F.A.T. Friends: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Member: \_\_\_\_\_

F.A.T. Friends: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Member: \_\_\_\_\_

F.A.T. Friends: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Member: \_\_\_\_\_

F.A.T. Friends: \_\_\_\_\_

### In Two Weeks

Spend the next two weeks praying over these names. If you do not have names yet, pray for God to provide a few. Hold off on inviting these people for now. Our next conversation will cover how we can invite people in a way that sets our future D-groups up for success.

### Next Week

Who wants to lead our D-Group meeting? (ensure that each person has an opportunity to lead 1-2 D-Groups over the next several weeks)

## Conversation 3: Inviting Potential Members

Approximately 9 weeks before the end of your D-Group, have this conversation. First, read this to your group: How can you make sure your future group starts strong and healthy? A clear and faithful D-Group invitation is the foundation of a healthy group. A good D-Group invitation involves **asking the right person and setting the right expectations**. If we do not do both of these things, we as leaders will have to spend significant time later helping the group understand its purpose and commitment level.

Remember, we are looking for three qualities in those we invite: faithful, available, and teachable. It is important for you to make an honest assessment of those you are planning to ask. There will be a temptation to invite someone who meets two of the three characteristics. You may even say something like, "I think D-Group will be what he needs to become faithful." This shouldn't be someone we push into D-Groups, but allow them to continue to grow in a small group until we can answer yes to all three characteristics. **A D-Group invitation should never be an opportunity to prove faithfulness, but always extended as a response to faithfulness.**

Next, answer the following questions together:

- As you have prayed over your list of people, do you feel like each person is faithful, available, and teachable?
- What, if any, concerns do you have about any potential members?

Last, read the following aloud to your group:

Another part of a D-Group invitation is to set the right expectations. There is a popular phrase, “**What you win them with, you win them to.**” People are joining your group based on your summary of its purpose and description. Therefore, if we give an incomplete picture of D-Groups, we can expect an incomplete commitment from the group.

We must then make sure that the vision of the group is clear and the commitment level of the group is understood. When we faithfully describe a D-Group and people join with a clear vision and high commitment, it will be much easier for your group to grow together and multiply in the future.

On the following page you can see the “D-Group Invitation”. This shares the vision and commitment level of the D-Group. As you begin to have discussions with potential members, print out this invitation and walk through it with them. When you finish explaining the D-Group concept, a helpful question to ask is “Would this be something that you are interested in and willing to commit to?”

### **Over the Next 4 Weeks**

Print out copies of the “D-Group Invitation” and have face-to-face conversations with potential D-Group members, asking them to consider joining your group.

## **Conversation 4: Celebrate & Commission**

### **Celebrate**

The week before the end of your D-Group, have this conversation. First, have each person share their response to the questions below:

- How has this group been with you through the peaks and valleys of the last several months?
- Look back over the time our D-Group has met. How have you grown as a Christ follower?

### **Commission**

After you have celebrated, use the following exercise to know who and what to pray for in the coming weeks. Have each leader share their answer to the questions below. Encourage the whole group to write down what each person shares.

- Who is currently committed to your upcoming group?
- How can this group pray for you specifically as you step into leading this group?

### **Next Week**

Pass out the D-Group Leader Guide to each person in your group. Tell them to read through it this week and answer any questions they have about it next week.

### ***What is a D-Group?***

WEEKLY INPUT

- > Accountability
- > Daily Bible Reading
- > Responding to God's Word
- > Discipleship Discussions
- > Praying for One Another

LIFETIME OUTPUT

- > Go with Gospel Love
- > Share God's Truth
- > Commit to the Kingdom Future of Others



**LIFE  
TRANSFORMATION**



### ***What's the Difference?***

D-GROUP

- > gender-specific, closed group of 2-5 people who begin together at the same time
- > community, accountability, and accelerated discipleship
- > consists of believers who desire to go deeper with others
- > group discussion focused on common Scripture reading

SMALL GROUP

- > open group of 5-15 people (gender-specific and mixed, different seasons and stages)
- > community, discipleship, and outreach
- > mixture of believers and those curious about God
- > facilitator leads using sermon discussion guides



**BOTH based on  
Acts 2:42-47**



### **What commitments are you making?**

- Commit yourself fully to the Lord during this time with anticipation that this will be a season of spiritual transformation.
- Commit to meeting weekly for about 60 minutes with the group for the next 9-15 months. When absent, share your responses to God's Word and prayer requests.
- Commit to the weekly inputs, including reading Scripture 5 days per week and responding in writing a few times per week.
- Commit to an environment of confidentiality, honesty, and transparency.
- Commit to praying for those far from God on a weekly basis.
- Commit to praying about leading a D-group in the future.

### ***What questions can I answer for you?***