

SMALL GROUPS -BIBLIOGRAPHY -

101 Great Ideas to Create a Caring Group, by Thom Corrigan (NavPress) ISBN 1-57683-072-1
A guide to make your group one that cares for each other—and the world around you.

Biblical Foundations For Small Group Ministry: An Integrational Approach, by Gareth Weldon Icenogle (InterVarsity, 1994) ISBN 0-8308-1771-9

The author thoroughly examines both Old and New Testaments for the basis of small group ministry. He considers the texts in new ways, providing heightened understanding of their implications for ministry in the context of small groups. Then he turns to the early church to study tradition and practice. In addition, he brings an integration of theological, sociological and educational principles to the biblical text. All through the book, practical applications of these principles offer guidance for setting up and running a biblically based small group ministry program.

The Big Book on Small Groups, by Jeffrey Arnold (InterVarsity, revised 2004) ISBN 0-8308-2370-0

In this revised edition, the author breaks down small groups so that you can see them from all angles. It will give basics to get you going—and the support and nurture you need to make small groups effective as a strategy for outreach and discipleship.

Building a Church of Small Groups: A Place Where Nobody Stands Alone, by Bill Donahue and Russ Robinson (Zondervan, 2005) ISBN: 0310240352

This book unpacks the vision, values, and strategies required to integrate small groups into your entire ministry. *Part one* presents the theological, sociological, and organizational underpinnings of small groups. You'll discover why small groups, as reflections of God's communal nature, are so vital to church health. *Part two* moves you from vision to practice. Here is how to develop thriving small groups based on authentic relationships, where truth and life intersect, conflict leads to growth, and skilled leaders help group members mature into fully devoted followers of Christ. *Part three* shows you how to identify, recruit, and train group leaders and provide them with long-term coaching and support. Finally, in part four, you'll learn how to deal with the critical process of change as your church develops its small group ministry.

Discipleship Journal's Best Bible Study Methods, by Discipleship Journal (NavPress) ISBN 1576832910

From word studies to role-playing to personal reflection, both pastors and laypeople explain how to infuse study with fresh insight—and without compromising the Bible's meaning or integrity.

Discipleship Journal's Best Small-Group Ideas, Volume 1, by Discipleship Journal (NavPress) ISBN 1576838471

Discover creative ideas for outreach, serving, prayer, Bible study, and many other small-group activities. You'll find help for determining your group's direction, and you'll discover how to troubleshoot some of the most common problems small groups face.

Discipleship Journal's Best Small-Group Ideas, Volume 2, by Discipleship Journal (NavPress) ISBN 157683848X

These ideas cover a broad range of common issues faced by small-group leaders, such as: finding and developing new leaders, dealing with tricky interpersonal problems, understanding tough passages, interacting with the Scriptures in fresh, creative ways, learning to pray together—and enjoying it!, Integrating evangelism into your small group, Serving others together, Supporting world-missions efforts as a team.

Experiencing Community, by Thom Corrigan (NavPress) ISBN 0891099387

Helps you discover what it means to be a community of Christ-followers. By discussing how you will function together as one, what it means to love one another, and how to grow spiritually through shared ministry and insight, your group will grow closer as you grow closer to God.

Getting Together, by Em Griffin (InterVarsity, 1982) ISBN 0-87784-390-2

The author describes three kinds of groups (task groups, relationship groups and influence groups) and explores their dynamics.

Go Big with Small Groups: Eleven Steps to an Explosive Small Group Ministry, by Bill Easum and John Atkinson (Abingdon) ISBN 9780687491353

The authors know the pitfalls that endanger attempts to center a congregation's life around small groups. They understand how to make small groups growing, self-reproducing centers of Christian discipleship.

How to Ask Great Questions: Guide Your Group to a Meaningful Life-Changing Experience, by Karen Lee-Thorp (NavPress) ISBN 1576830780

You'll learn when and how to ask effective questions, and how to promote follow-up discussions that will lead from good thinking to life application.

How to Build a Small-Groups Ministry, by Neal McBride (NavPress) ISBN 0-89109-769-4

This book will walk you through the critical steps to planning and coordinating a successful program for small groups in your church.

How to Have Great Small-Group Meetings, by Neal F. McBride (NavPress) ISBN 1576830217

Here's how you can lead focused, well-planned small-group meetings that are both efficient and effective.

How to Lead a LifeGuide Bible Study, by Jack Kuhatschek and Cindy Bunch (LIFEGUIDE Series, InterVarsity, 2002) ISBN 0-8308-3000-6

This guidebook will show you how to start a group, how to decide what to study, how to prepare to lead, how to study the Bible, how to use a study guide, how to write your own questions, how to lead the discussion, how to evaluate the study.

How to Lead a Seeker Bible Discussion, by Rebecca Manley Pippert (SALTSHAKER RESOURCES, InterVarsity, 2003) ISBN 0-8308-2121-X

Shows you how to start and lead a seeker Bible discussion so that you can make a difference in the lives of your friends, neighbors, and coworkers.

How to Lead Small Groups, by Neal McBride (NavPress) ISBN 0-89109-303-6
Provides step-by-step guidance and practical exercises to help you grasp the critical aspects of small-group leadership and dynamics including: defining your group's purpose, covenanting, understanding group stages, evaluating your group, handling conflict, asking good discussion questions, and stimulating healthy fellowship, sharing, and prayer.

How to Start and Sustain a Faith-Based Small Group, by John D. Schroeder (Abingdon) ISBN: 0-687-08002-9
Shows how to establish a ministry that can serve as a cornerstone for church growth.

Leading Bible Discussions, by James F. Nyquist and Jack Kuhatschek (LIFEGUIDE Series, InterVarsity) ISBN 0830810005
Here is a primer on how to lead Bible discussions, including discussions on how to start a group, what to study, how to prepare, and how to lead.

Leading Life-Changing Small Groups, by Bill Donahue (Zondervan, 2002) ISBN: 0310247500
Packed with practical, proven information, tips and insights, this valuable resource will help small group leaders and churches develop and lead effective groups that change lives. Topics include small-group philosophy, training leaders, the dynamics of group life, conducting meetings, shepherding members, and more.

Real Small Groups Don't Just Happen, by Neal F. McBride (NavPress) ISBN 1-57683-103-5
Real small groups don't just happen—they take work. This book examines the elements necessary to create a real, functioning, and healthy small group.

Regroup: Training Groups to Be Groups, by Henry Cloud, Bill Donahue, and John Townsend (Zondervan, 2007)
The authors establish a new training paradigm—one that equips leaders and groups simultaneously and gives them everything they need to start and sustain a life-changing group. Components include a 4-session DVD and participant's guide.

Seeker Small Groups: Engaging Spiritual Seekers in Life-Changing Discussions, by Garry Poole (Zondervan, 2003) ISBN 9780310242338
The book presents a detailed, step-by-step process for launching seeker small groups strategy in a wide variety of settings. The groups are for seekers whether or not they are attending church. Numerous stories and illustrations provide inspiration and encouragement so readers are not only equipped but also motivated to launch their own seeker groups. Includes discussion/study questions.

The Seven Deadly Sins of Small Group Ministry: A Troubleshooting Guide for Church Leaders, by Bill Donahue and Russ Robinson (Zondervan, 2005) ISBN: 0310247063
This book allows you to assess, diagnose, and correct seven common deadly sins that can drain the life from your church's small group ministry. Here are the strategies and tools you need to deal with 1. Unclear Ministry Objectives 2. Lack of Point Leadership 3. Poor Coaching Structures 4. Neglect of Ongoing Leadership Development 5. Closed Group Mind-set 6. Narrow Definition of a Small Group 7. Neglect of Assimilation Process.

Seven Steps to Effective Small Group Ministry: A Principle-Based Approach, by David Stark and Patrick Keifert (Faith Alive Christian Resources, revised edition) ISBN 978-1-59255-190-3

Provides an explanation of management teams, small group principles, different types of small groups, and how to assess your congregation and community. Also includes tips for leaders in small churches and a suggested timeline for starting or relaunching a small group ministry. (Note: This revised edition also incorporates information formerly included in the *Small Church Small Group Guide* in the People Together Series.)

Seven Tools for Building Effective Groups, by Jeffrey Arnold (NavPress) ISBN 1576830209

By highlighting the seven most essential skills a group leader can possess, *Seven Tools for Building Effective Groups* will equip you to make a lasting and positive difference in the lives of those you lead.

Small Group Idea Book, edited by Cindy Bunch (InterVarsity, revised and expanded 2003) ISBN 0-8308-1124-9

Includes creative ideas to help you evaluate the state of your group and enhance the five components of healthy group life. Whether you are a small group leader, a group coordinator or pastor, this will be a helpful reference to keep handy.

Small Group Leaders' Handbook, by Ann Beyerlein, et. al. (InterVarsity, 1995) ISBN 0-8308-1139-7

This IVP classic contains everything you need to know about small groups: starting with a strong biblical and strategic foundation; building in 4 key components-- community, nurture, worship and outreach; guiding the group through its life stages; creating good communication; handling conflict in the group; encouraging members to "own" the group; planning group meetings; and developing leadership skills. It also includes a resource section with great ideas: ice breakers, application steps, community-building projects, outreach tips and more.

Small Group Outreach: Turning Groups Inside Out, by Jeffrey Arnold (InterVarsity, 1998) ISBN 0-8308-1170-2

Provides a practical handbook for reaching out to others through a small group.

Small Group Starter Kit, by Jeffrey Arnold (LIFEGUIDE SERIES, InterVarsity, 1995) ISBN 0-8308-1073-0

In this easy-to-use guide Jeff Arnold provides you with everything you need for the first meetings of a small group. Getting acquainted, setting expectations, studying Scripture--it's all here in a step-by-step format that will help you get started well.

Transforming Bible Study: Understanding God's Word Like You've Never Read It Before, by Bob Grahmann (InterVarsity, 2003) ISBN 0-8308-1123-0

What you need is a Bible study method that will bring Scripture to life in your personal study and in your group studies. The author unfolds a method of inductive Bible study which has been updated to meet the needs of today's generation. With both biblical expertise and cultural awareness he lays out the method clearly. With exercises to put the method into practice, this is a book that will benefit you individually as well as in your next group Bible study.

Walking the Small Group Tightrope: Meeting the Challenges Every Group Faces,
by Bill Donahue, Russ Robinson (Zondervan, 2003) ISBN 9780310252290

The authors help you understand and deal with six dynamic areas every group leader must manage in order to create genuine, transforming small group community. Your group is in for unprecedented connection and growth when you harness the interplay between: Truth and Life, Care and Discipleship, Friendship and Accountability, Kindness and Confrontation, Task and People, Openness and Intimacy.

This bibliography was prepared by the staff of the Covenant Resource Center. While not specifically endorsed by the Evangelical Covenant Church, the above resources may be helpful as you plan for ministry. For additional assistance or suggestions, contact the Covenant Resource Center at 1-800-338-IDEA(4332) or resource.center@covchurch.org.

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