



PREPARATION & EVALUATION GROUPWORDS

PREPARATION ... This is the essential word. “You need to be ready” “You must be well prepared.” And this is all very true! But there is another essential word.

EVALUATION ... In fact, evaluating a past Small Group experience is very much a part of preparing for a future Small Group Experience. Here are some questions to help us evaluate.

The Leading:

- Did you lead or were you led?
- Did you listen and what did you hear?
- Were there many tangents? Why did they occur? How could they have been avoided?

The Bible:

- Was the material covered? Why or why not?
- Was the text really discussed?
- Did the group members understand the essence of the text?

The Planning:

- Did you follow your plan closely? Why or why not?
- Did you go into the study feeling adequately prepared?
- What did you learn that will help you in future planning?

The Participation:

- Did everyone attend that you thought would be there? If not, how will you follow up?
- Did everyone feel welcome to contribute to the discussion?
- Did anyone feel “shut-down” and unable to make comments? Why?
- How did you try to draw out the “shy” group member?
- How did you try to control the more “dominate” group member?

The Application:

- Was the group able to discuss how this text applied to their daily living?
- Were the applications specific and practical?

The Relationships:

- How well do the group members know each other?
- How well do they listen to each other?

There is always a danger in doing this kind of personal evaluation. Sometimes it only surfaces the negatives — the mistakes, setbacks, the problems. Remember to also be aware of the positives — What went right? What was good about the discussion? Who was helped?

As our church grows organizationally “large” your leadership is vital in helping us to stay relationally “small.” More than ever we need to know each other, encourage each other, and keep each other in God’s Word.