

WHAT POTENTIAL GROUP MEMBERS WANT TO KNOW GROUPWORDS

Let's say that someone is new to your Small Group, or they are considering joining a Small Group for the first time. What are their expectations? What are their questions? What does every Small Group member want to know?

Among other things, they may be asking questions like:

"Is This Group Worth My Time and Effort?"

This is not a selfish question. There are so many choices today – so many places asking for our time. In many ways this is a fair question: Is this group a worthwhile time investment of my time? How would you answer?

"Is This Group Relevant To Me?"

"I am new to the city" or, "I am a widow" or, "I am a single parent" or, "I am ... you fill in the blank." God's Word is always relevant, but people need help integrating Scripture into their lives. A Small Group is a wonderful place to see just how relevant God's Word is. How relevant is your group?

"Is This Group Leader Modeling Genuine Faith?"

Leading isn't about looking good; it's about being genuine and guiding people into grace-filled lives. People need and look for a picture of faith. Whether we want to be models or not people are watching and learning. Are you growing as a person? Do you model genuine faith?

"Is There a Place For Me Here?"

Every person in the group is looking for genuine fellowship. Are all the members accepted and cared for by the group? Is the group a place where they can discover and utilize their gifts and talents? Do they have a place to contribute and offer their services or their resources?

"Is The Group Faithful To Its Vision?"

Think about the initial purpose – the "Vision" set for your group. Is your group delivering on what people were invited to be a part of? Is there a true discussion, or is the group time dominated by a few? Is the group committed to the concept or growing and then "birthing" new groups? Is it true to its Vision?

Of course, there are many more questions, but I was challenged by these. I hope you are as well.