

# ALL MEN'S GROUP LEADER GUIDELINES

All small group leader/facilitators should read and apply the following guidelines.

The best leaders are those who are willing to risk: Risk showing their weaknesses, risk being vulnerable, and risk living authentically. Having

your own moral challenges is not disqualifying to lead/facilitate. Hearing your transparency and seeing your commitment to be transformed will really bond each group member, encouraging them to be vulnerable and pursue moral integrity.

### REGISTER YOUR GROUP

\*\*Please register your group online at www.restonbible.org/allmen. We only need your name, the day and time your group meets and the number of men in the group. We do not need their names. This will help us track engagement in this cooperative effort.

## PRIMARY ROLE

- Facilitate the group meetings, acting as a moderator during discussion and encouraging participation.
- Provide a safe place where conversation will remain private.
- You do not need special training, counseling experience, or psychological training.
- Ensure someone opens and closes every session in prayer.

#### CONFIDENTIALITY

What is said in a group is presented in trust and confidence. It should be given the utmost consideration and privacy and never shared outside the group. Even with spouses, information about another group member's story should not be shared without that person's permission.

In order to protect confidentiality, the group is not open to guests or visitors. Anyone who is considering joining the group after it has launched should first speak with you. Decisions should be made on a case by case basis. After you group has met for the first two weeks that person should wait to join another group.

#### RESPECT OTHERS

LISTEN RESPECTFULLY, LIMIT SHARING, AND RESPECT OTHERS BY MANAGING "TALKERS" WHO TEND TO VEER INTO OTHER SUBJECTS OR LONG STORIES.

Speak only for yourself, limit giving advice without first asking permission to do so on the spot. This will allow others the time to formulate their answers and come to their conclusion. Do not contribute to side conversations and give everyone an opportunity to share.

#### PUNCTUALITY

Start and end on time. Use time wisely. Avoid rabbit trails.

### COMMITMENT TO ACCOUNTABILITY

MAINTAIN REGULAR ATTENDANCE, TAKE OWNERSHIP, AND BE RESPONSIBLE

Make attending group a priority and let your brothers know if you cannot attend a meeting.

Encourage at least one brief call or contact between each member weekly and if a brother relapses then

coming up with a group contact schedule can be helpful.

As leader/facilitators you are always free and encouraged to contact anyone in church leadership for guidance.

# UNIQUE GUIDLINES

You may need to add a couple specific ones to your group. For example, cell phone use during your meeting, etc., depending on the makeup of your specific group. Use wisdom and discernment, act in Christlike love.

## GROUP LEADER'S CHECKLIST

# BEFORE EVERY MEETING

- Are the DVD player and TV/monitor hooked up and ready to play?
- Is there good audio?
- Is the room arranged comfortably for conversation and discussion? Does everyone have a good view of the screen?
- Encourage men to bring journals/tablets/paper & pens for note taking. Have some available for those who forget.
- Pray!

## **GROUP ORIENTATION**

DURING YOUR FIRST MEETING, COVER THE GUIDELINES IN THIS DOCUMENT WITH YOUR GROUP.

#### If you don't already know each other well:

- Include brief introductions that include marital status, vocation, where they live ,etc.
- Share each other's contact information between all group members.
- Have any other subjective questions prepared. This will put boundaries around those members who might overshare or share about issues that will be discussed later in the series.

If we can encourage or support you in any way as you lead your group, please email allmen@restonbible.org.