



Leadership Tips

TEACHING STYLES TO AVOID

by Len Woods

Every small group leader is unique--equipped by God with a one-of-a-kind combination of personality type, strengths, built-in weaknesses, and natural teaching style. To be effective teachers, we need to capitalize on our strengths and minimize our weaknesses. But we also need to remember that every strength has a corresponding weakness. Certain tendencies can detract from the mission we are trying to accomplish.

Do you see yourself in any of the following small group leader types?

Linda Lecture

Linda loves to talk (and, maybe, even hear herself talk). She's usually very knowledgeable, and so she has good things to say. But let's face it--in the day of 22 minute sit-coms and short attention spans (thanks, MTV!) not even great orators can win and maintain a lengthy hearing. Communication experts agree this style, used exclusively, is the least effective way to impart life-changing truth.

Sheila Sharetime

Sheila loves to get everyone involved. She wants folks to verbalize their innermost thoughts and feelings. The upside of her approach is that people feel listened to and affirmed; the downside is that all sorts of emotions and interpretations end up "dumped" on the table and few conclusions are reached. Lots of times people go home confirmed in their own (sometimes wrong!) opinions and attitudes.

Hank Hobbyhorse

Hank, bless his heart, has a burden for prayer (or missions or worship or discipleship or ... pick a topic). And so he somehow has the uncanny ability to find that particular topic in every passage of Scripture. How is the story of Zaccheus about

prayer? Answer: It's not. While Hank's zeal is commendable, his eisegesis (reading into the text) is not.

Bonnie Bunnytrail

Because of her easy-going style and laid-back, unorganized personality, Bonnie's group never really gets down to business. They always have a great time. Unfortunately, it's seldom related to the passage at hand. Bonnie can't seem to keep the group on track or reel them in when they wander off.

Eddie Exegetical

Eddie loves learning. He could spend hours poring over the Hebrew text. Whereas Bonnie's (see above) idea of a good time is curling up before the fire with the latest John Grisham novel, Eddie gets excited at the prospect of reading a new scholarly tomes about the Dead Sea scrolls. He fills his messages and lessons with lots of "seminary speak" and once waxed eloquent for fifteen minutes about the difference between the aorist and imperfect Greek tenses. People are impressed by Eddie's knowledge, but seldom changed by it.

Doug Dogmatic

Doug is a man of great conviction. He has firm ideas about everything. Broach a subject and Doug will let you know what he thinks (and why he thinks his opinion is the correct Biblical view). Doug sometimes comes across as though he's got God and Christianity all figured out. People routinely leave Doug's study with answers to questions they didn't even know they had.

Pat Pointless

Pat is as nice a guy/girl as you'd ever want to meet--genuine, solid, well-meaning. The only problem with the Bible study at Pat's house is that you leave scratching your head and wondering, "So what? What's the point? What was I supposed to get from that?" Pat would do well to sit down first and pray, asking God, "Lord, what do you want us to get from this?" Then Pat could structure a learning exercise that would move the group toward that end.

Care Group Ministry



Especially for
Care Group Leaders
&
Assistant Leaders

SEP - OCT 2009 ISSUE



BEDOK METHODIST CHURCH
CARE GROUP MINISTRY

Our goal : To Be A Strategic Partner of the Church
Vision -
To Make Disciples For Jesus Christ



Announcing

1. NEW CARE GROUP : GONE FISHING

We welcome Lee Yoke Ling and her Care Group, into the CG Ministry. *Gone Fishing CG*, a group with ladies and man, meets every Thursday night at 7.45 pm in Tampines.

2. PRAISE, PRAYER & POWER

Thursday, 8 October 2009
@ 8.00 pm, Church Sanctuary
Mother Teresa said to Henri Nouwen,
"Spend an hour adoring the Lord and
do good to people."

Set aside this Thursday night to join other church members in worship and adoring God.

3. BMC 63rd ANNIVERSARY COMBINED SERVICE

Speaker : Rev Edmund De Souza
Sunday, 18 October 2009
5.00 pm – 7.00 pm in BMC
(followed by dinner)

4. HEALING & DELIVERANCE TRAINING 2009

Saturdays : Oct 3, 24, 31,
Nov 7, 14
9.00 am – 5.30 pm

Fees : \$30 per session Venue : ROL
Register to be trained and be equipped to minister to the broken-hearted and set captives free.

5. CG LINK

With effect from January 2010, this newsletter will cease to be published.

THE CORRECTABILITY FACTOR : BALANCING LIFE BETWEEN VICTORY & DEFEAT

Pastor Wayne Cordeiro

Your correctability factor is one of the most important things about you. It determines how quickly you learn, the quality of your relationships, even your success in life. Correctability is the one factor that determines how well you stay on track for success. Teachability is defined as your ability to learn new things while you're growing; to improve when things are going well. Correctability, on the other hand, is your ability to respond to correction when things are starting to go wrong. Your correctability factor is your ability to respond to truth that God reveals to you.

We see in the life of King Saul someone who lost his correctability. And all of the resulting compromises he made culminated in the end of his reign, his dynasty, and even his life. God instructed King Saul to annihilate the entire Amalekite tribe. Seems extreme but the reason was because when the Israelites first came out of the desert, the Amalekites would attack any stragglers and kill them. The Lord instructed them to overcome these people because they preyed upon their weaknesses and He wanted to prevent that.

King Saul suffered because he refused to kill off dangerous things in his life. (1 Sam. 15:3,9) King Saul only killed what he wanted to and toyed with the rest. And that small compromise, paired with a lack of correctability, was the beginning of his downfall. Let's learn the lesson of preventing correctability killers in our lives.

Correctability killers:

1. DENIAL (1 Sam. 15:13-14)

King Saul claimed to obey completely. But behind him came the distinctive 'baaaa' of sheep and the 'mooring' of cows he had saved for himself. His sin cried out louder than his denial. The first

correctability killer is denial and we overcome it with genuine repentance.

2. BLAMING OTHERS (1 Sam. 15:15)

When King Saul was confronted with his sin, he immediately blamed others. We all do that. We all have a tendency to look for someone else to lay the blame on. The correction for this is simple: Practice Humbling Yourself (1 Pet. 5:6). The reason we have to practice humbling ourselves is because it doesn't come easily. You must practice it. Your flesh will scream against it, but continue to practice it and make it a habit that becomes part of your character. One of the best corrections is self-correction. God tells us that the choice is simple: Either you humble yourself, or I will humble you. Choose correctability and be humbled so that He may exalt you in His time.

3. IMAGE (1 Sam. 15:30)

King Saul's greatest concern after disobeying God wasn't that the hand of God would be removed, and it wasn't that he had jeopardized his position as a wise leader who loved God. King Saul's greatest concern was all about his image of losing face in the public's eye. How do you cure this final deadly killer of image? Correction: Trust God.

The fear of man brings a snare, but he who trusts in the Lord will be exalted (Prov. 29:25)

Do it God's way. We either do it God's way or not. We trust Him, or not. If we do things His way, trusting His Word and His promises, then we allow Him to take care of the results. He will take care of 'looking right' if we will take care of 'being right.' See what God is saying, where He might be correcting you, and don't play around with it or tolerate it any longer. Kill it so that it cannot steal your successes and your relationships.

(Extract from Ps Wayne Cordeiro's sermon notes, 14 April, 2002, New Hope Church website)