

YOUNG MARRIED COUPLES DISCIPLESHIP GROUP

The leaders of this group have found the following tips helpful with their group. Some foundations need to be laid at the start. This sometimes takes time, but be patient.

1. Realness- Openness

We have stressed this from the beginning and people are really following it. Of course, modeling it as leaders makes a big difference.

2. Building trust by stating for the first few meeting times that what is said there stays there.

3. Taking the time to get to know one another. We've been taking turns sharing our "love story." Each couple shares their background as individuals and then they share how they met, etc.

4. As relationships build and they become comfortable with one another, they have begun some group studies. "Fireproof Your Marriage" is a great small group study. The initial start to this series is to watch the movie and then begin the series. These materials can be purchased at a Christian book store.

5. Having a fun night once a month is great. It has bonded the group and "breaks down barriers so that each one feels more comfortable with each other.

6. During all their meetings and fun nights, there are no children allowed (except nursing babies). Everyone finds their own babysitters. It is a little costly but worth it to improve the groups marriages.

7. Sometimes they break into guy and girl groups to share their toughest challenges and pray for one another. This has been greatly beneficial. It also helps (as leaders) to see where members of the group are spiritually.

8. Each week, the leaders share a challenge (the men to men and the ladies to the ladies).