

Preparing Your Community Group for Healthy and Effective Accountability

1. Pray.

Pray that God prepares you and your group for a new season of accountability.

2. Cast Vision, Give Ground Rules.

Assuming that your group has breakout prayer time based on gender, spend a moment before this breakout time to cast vision (the “why” of accountability) and give ground rules for engagement.

Example:

Sample Vision Cast:

“We want to really grow and become like Jesus, becoming the world changers he wants us to be. Sin prevents us from doing it. But God has given us each other, and honest confession and encouragement with each other, to overcome sin. Hebrews 3:13 tells us this (read text).”

Sample Ground Rules:

- Everything said does not leave the group.
- Use first person when sharing. Eg- “I have a hard time...” versus “You know when you have a hard time...”
- Be specific.
- Everyone listens first. No immediate advice giving, unless Spirit leads.

3. Seek for Practical, Weekly Action Steps

After a person shares, be sure to take initiative as a leader and ask people to come up with practical action steps for the week. The best ones are the ones that include community accountability.

Example question to ask:

“So how do you think you can address that this week? What’s one thing you can do differently?”

Example action steps that include community:

- Call the group leader or a designated person in the CG at a specific time and day, to share and pray about that particular issue. The best time/day of the call is the one that correlates with when someone faces that struggle the most. For example, if someone is having a hard time looking at porn during the evenings right before bed (eg. 10:30pm), ask them to call someone in the group at that time each day of the week.
- Install web report and filter software.

4. Pray Specifically for the Action Step

When you pray, pray specifically for the action step, as well as the internal change needed.

5. Ask about the issue in the following week.

Be sure to ask specifically how things went that week. Keeping a journal might be helpful. Repeat the process weekly!