

Forming and Facilitating Small Groups  
Iona School for Ministry  
Sunday, March 8, 2020

1. Why form a Small Group?

2. Plus/Delta Small Group



3. Types of Small Groups

Open:

Closed:

Topical or Special Interest:

Demographic-based:

Task Oriented:

Relational Oriented:

Learning Oriented:

4. Setting up a Small Group

5. Effective Facilitating

a. Leader is facilitator, not lecturer

b. Share power

c. Wisdom in the room

d. Listening skills

- e. Manage time
  - f. Manage interactions
  - g. How adults learn
6. Facilitating a Small Group
- a. Begin on time
  - b. Time for relationship building
  - c. Opening prayer
  - d. Group contract
  - e. Confidentiality
  - f. Listening, Learning & Discussion
  - g. Participation
  - h. Dominators
  - i. Quiet observers
  - j. Keep the environment safe
  - k. Manage conflict
  - l. Keep the group focused
  - m. End on time

## 7. Ending a Small Group

- a. Agreed upon ahead of time
- b. Timing
- c. Review what the group has accomplished or how the group has made difference in their life
- d. Talk about how people feel about ending
- e. Acknowledge grief
- f. Celebrate the gift of the group

### Resources:

*ChurchLeaders.com* Common Courtesies: Small Group Rules to Follow. By Amy Nappa, March 19, 2019)

<http://www.smallgroupcentral.org.uk/purposeofasmallgroup/>

Cooperative Games for a Cooperative World: Facilitating Trust, Communication and Spiritual Connection by [Dada Maheshvaranand](#)

[Communication in the Real World – Open Textbook \(umn.edu\)](#)