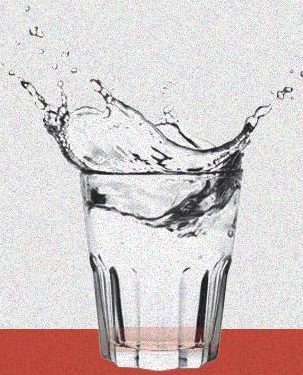


# FULL

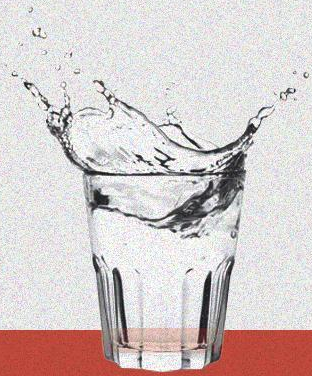
**RE:** GROUP





# **Leading Group Discussions That Develop Disciples**

**FULL**

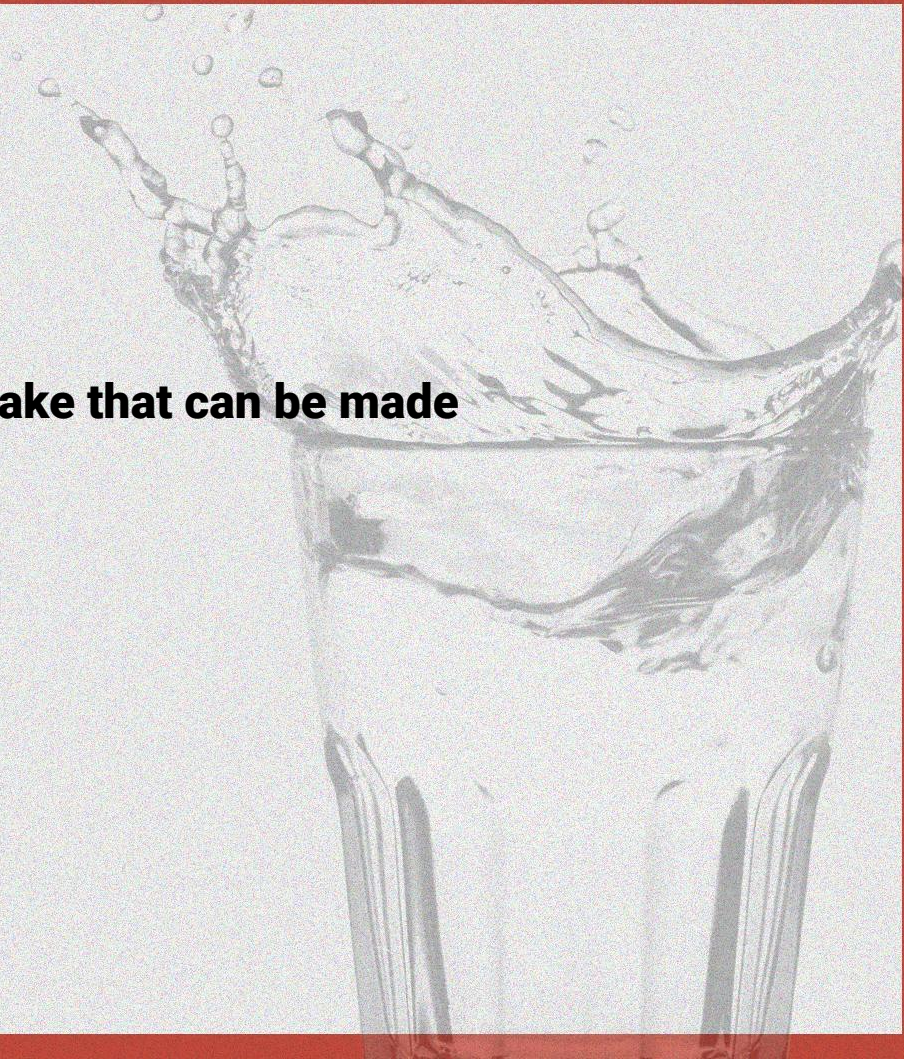


# Introduction

**FULL**

# Introduction

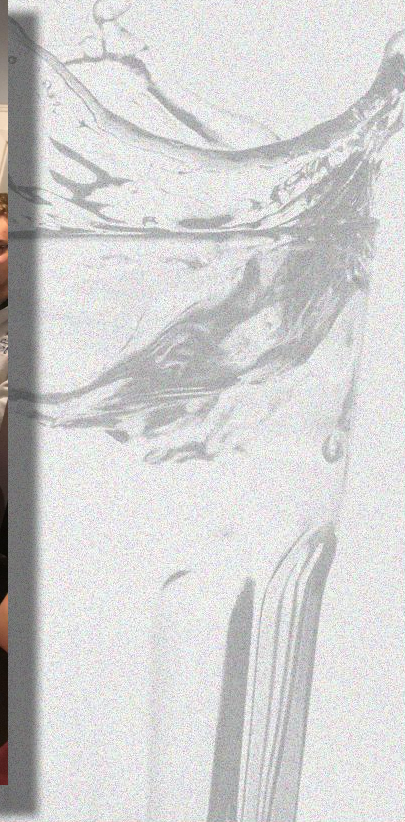
- **55 Years at Northridge**
- **30 Years of Groups**
- **Nearly exhausted every possible mistake that can be made**
- **Some advice I found online**



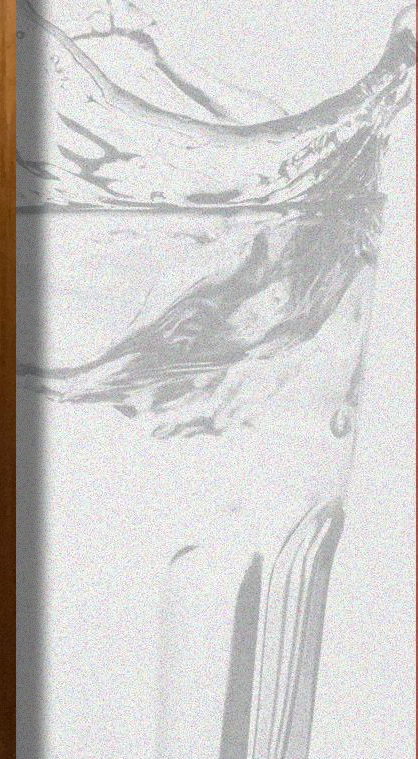


***HOW (NOT) TO:  
LEAD A SMALL GROUP***

# Introduction



# Introduction





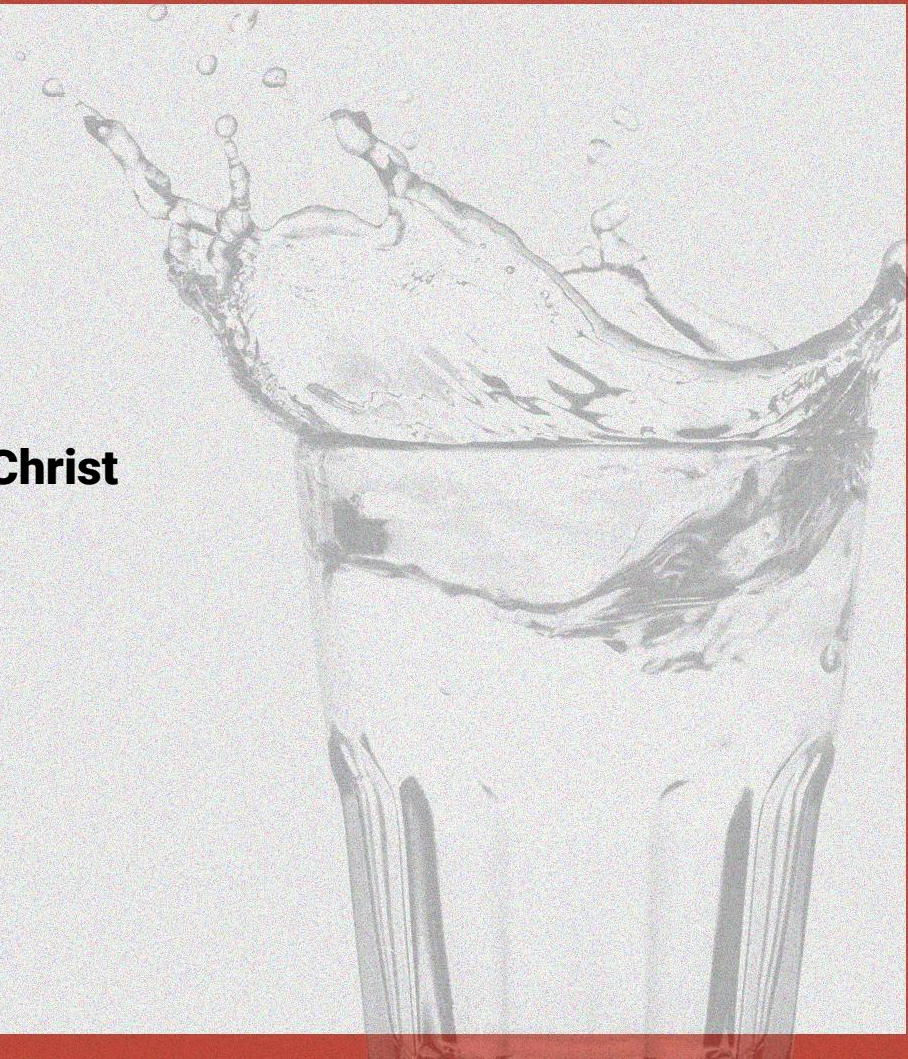
**Mindset**

**FULL**



# Some Reminders

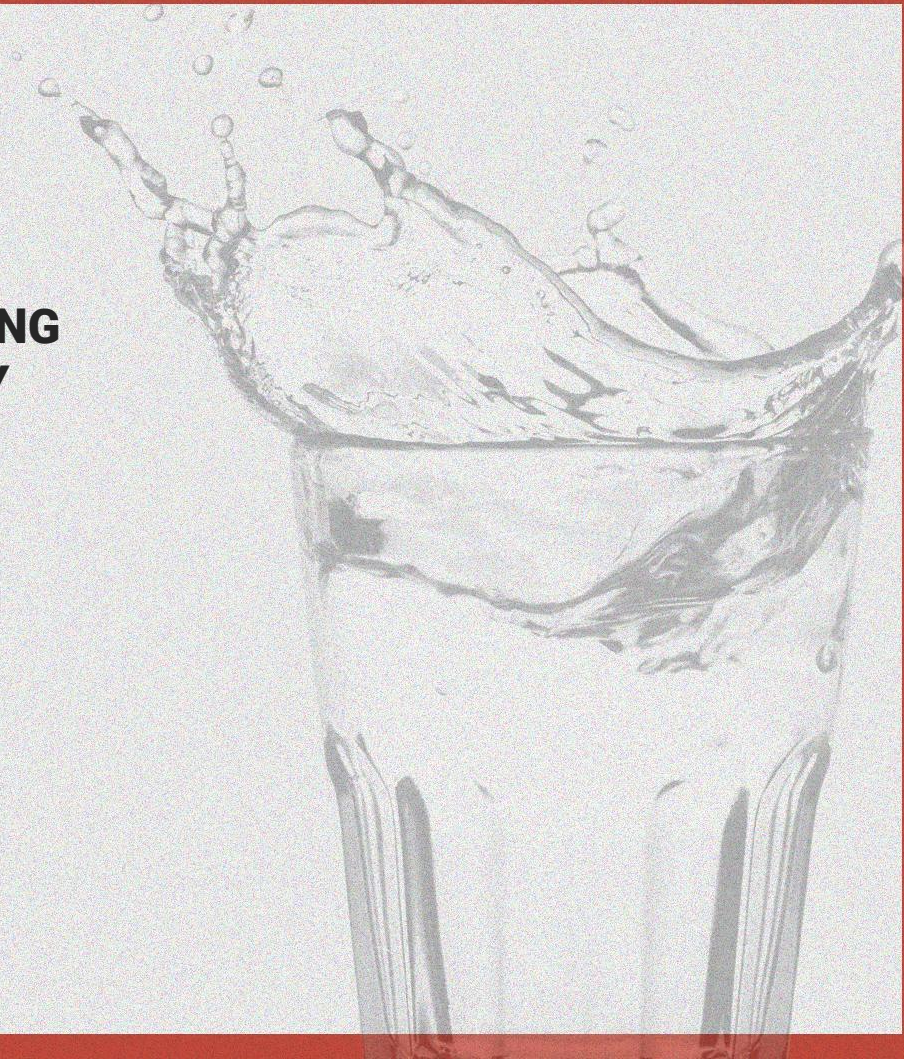
- **Don't Forget to Pray**
- **What Is The Goal?**
  - **"Thy Kingdom Come"**
  - **Together We Become More Like Christ**
- **ABCs**
  - **Apply the Bible**
  - **Build Relationships**
  - **Care For One Another**



# The Right Mindset

## GROUPS

- **DO NOT** serve the purpose of **TEACHING**
- **DO** serve the purpose of **COMMUNITY**
  
- **ARE NOT** Classrooms for **Content**
- **ARE** Gardens for **Growth**



# Aren't Groups Just Bible Studies?

	<b>Bible Study</b>	<b>Community Group</b>
<b>Content</b>		
<b>Flow</b>		
<b>Role</b>		
<b>Gifts</b>		

# Aren't Groups Just Bible Studies?

	<b>Bible Study</b>	<b>Community Group</b>
<b>Content</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Old</b>
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# Aren't Groups Just Bible Studies?

	<b>Bible Study</b>	<b>Community Group</b>
<b>Content</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Old</b>
<b>Flow</b>	<b>One to Many</b>	<b>Many to Many</b>
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# Aren't Groups Just Bible Studies?

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<b>Gifts</b>		

# Aren't Groups Just Bible Studies?

	<b>Bible Study</b>	<b>Community Group</b>
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<b>Role</b>	<b>Dispensing</b>	<b>Facilitating</b>
<b>Gifts</b>	<b>Teaching</b>	<b>Mercy / Helps</b>

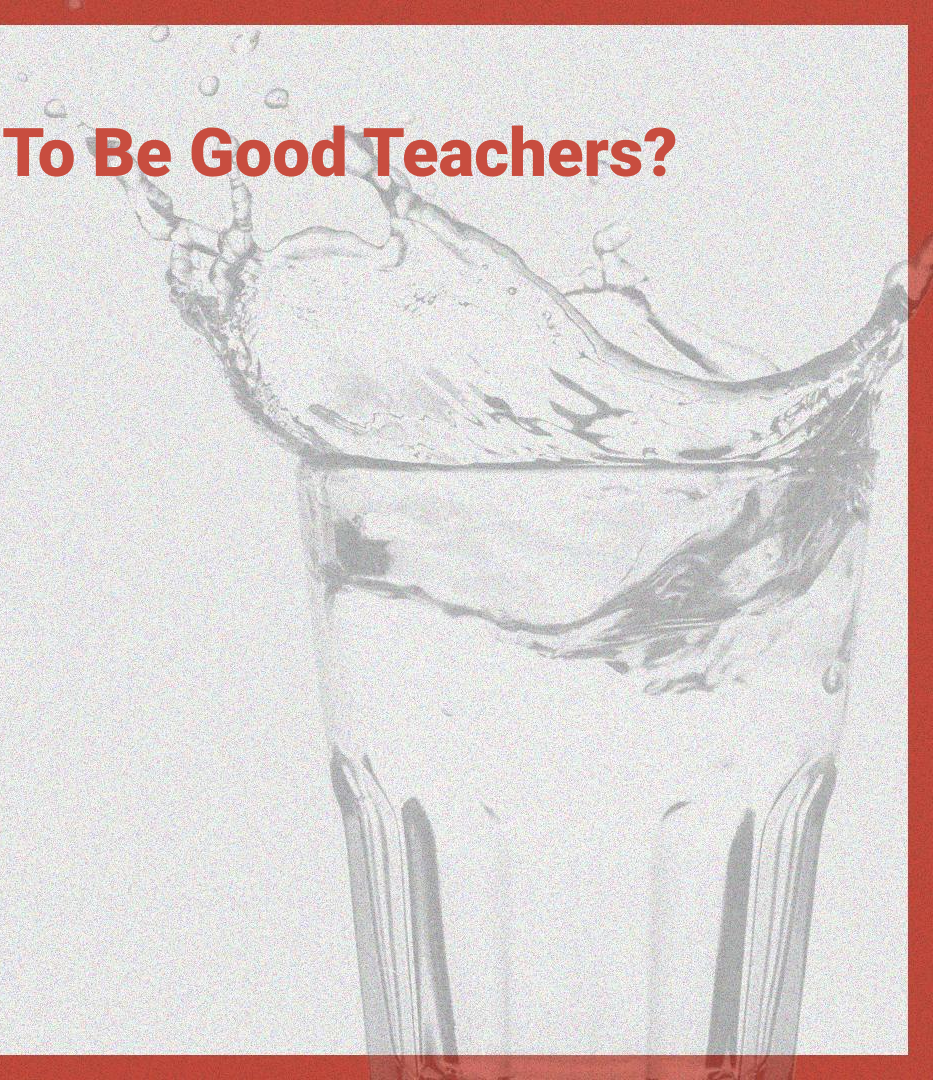
# Do Good Group Leaders Need To Be Good Teachers?

## Teachers

- **May Monopolize - In A “Good?” Way**
- **Limit Growth**
- **Are Scarce**

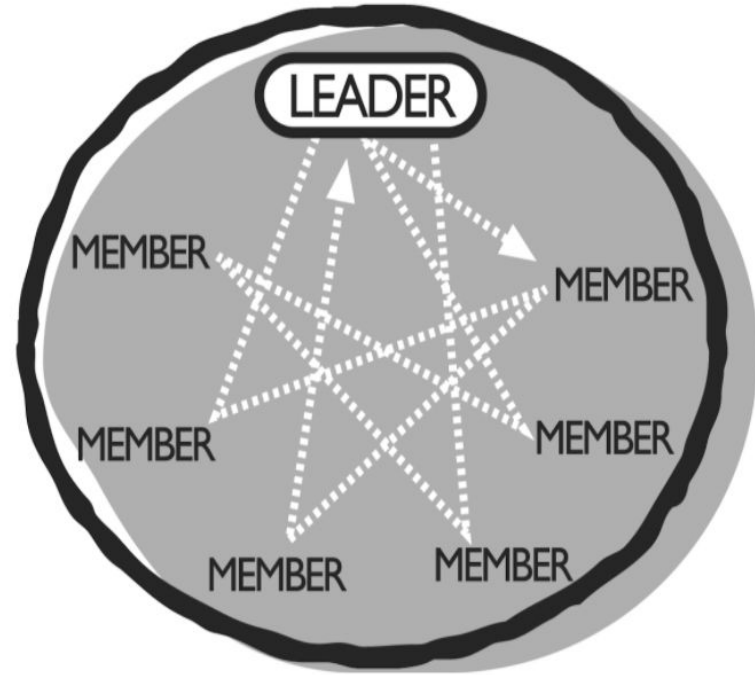
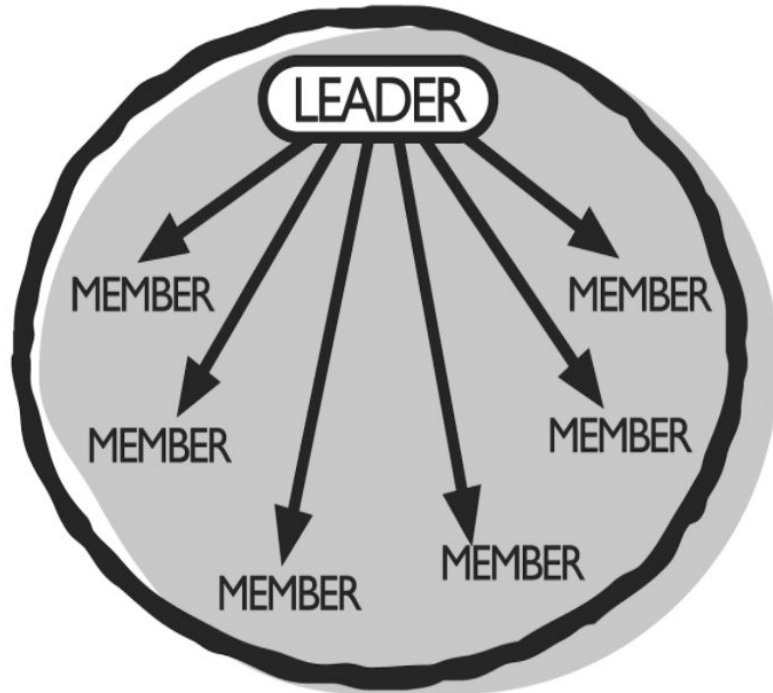
## Leaders

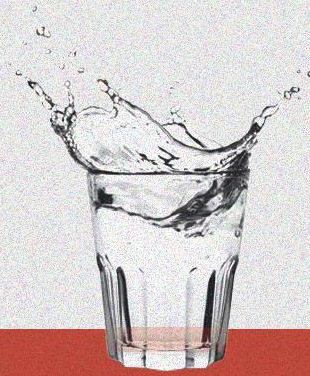
- **Create Safe Spaces**
- **Show Compassion And Care**
- **Encourage Collaboration**
- **Replace Themselves**





# Broadcast or Network





**Execution**

**FULL**

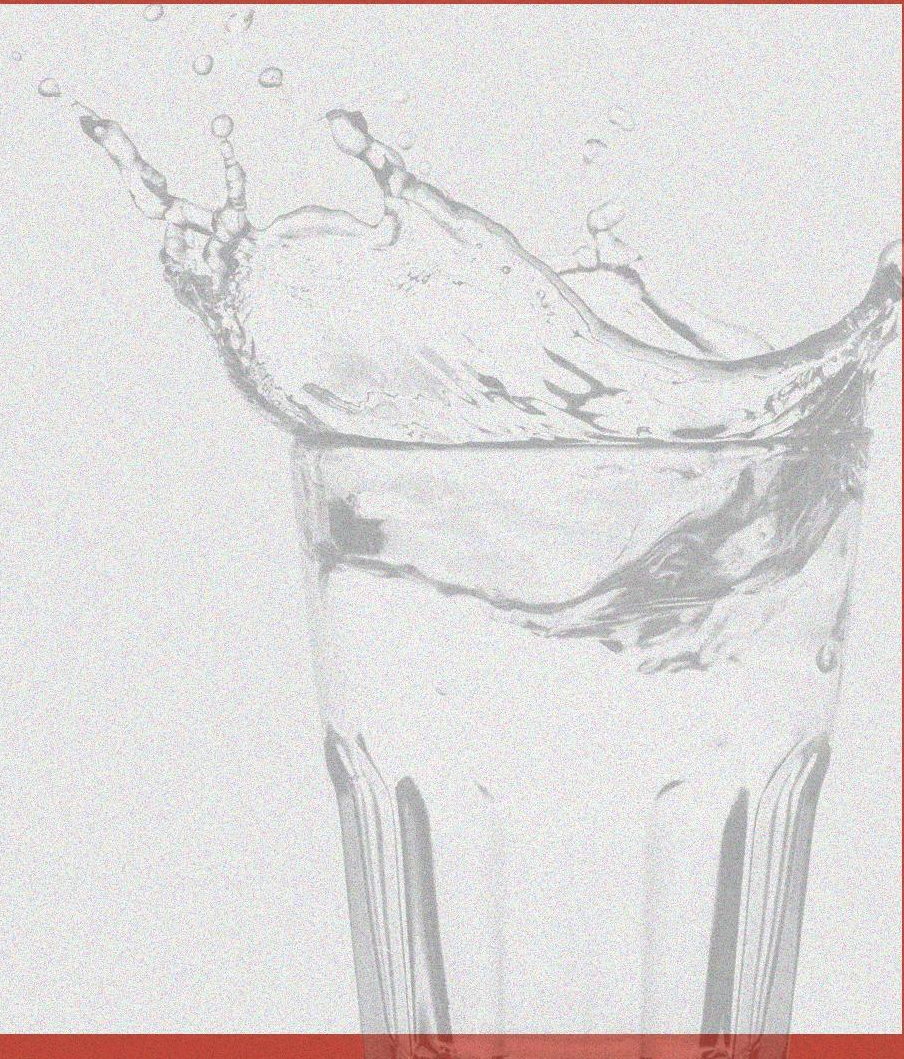
# Never Skip The Icebreaker

## Icebreaker Questions Should Be:

- **Easy To Answer (Quickly)**
- **Fun**
- **(Optionally) Relevant**
- **“What Was Your Childhood Like?”**

## The Aim Is To:

- **Make People Comfortable**  
**(Get The Hardest Part Over First)**
- **Involve Everyone**  
**(This goes for the discussion, too.)**



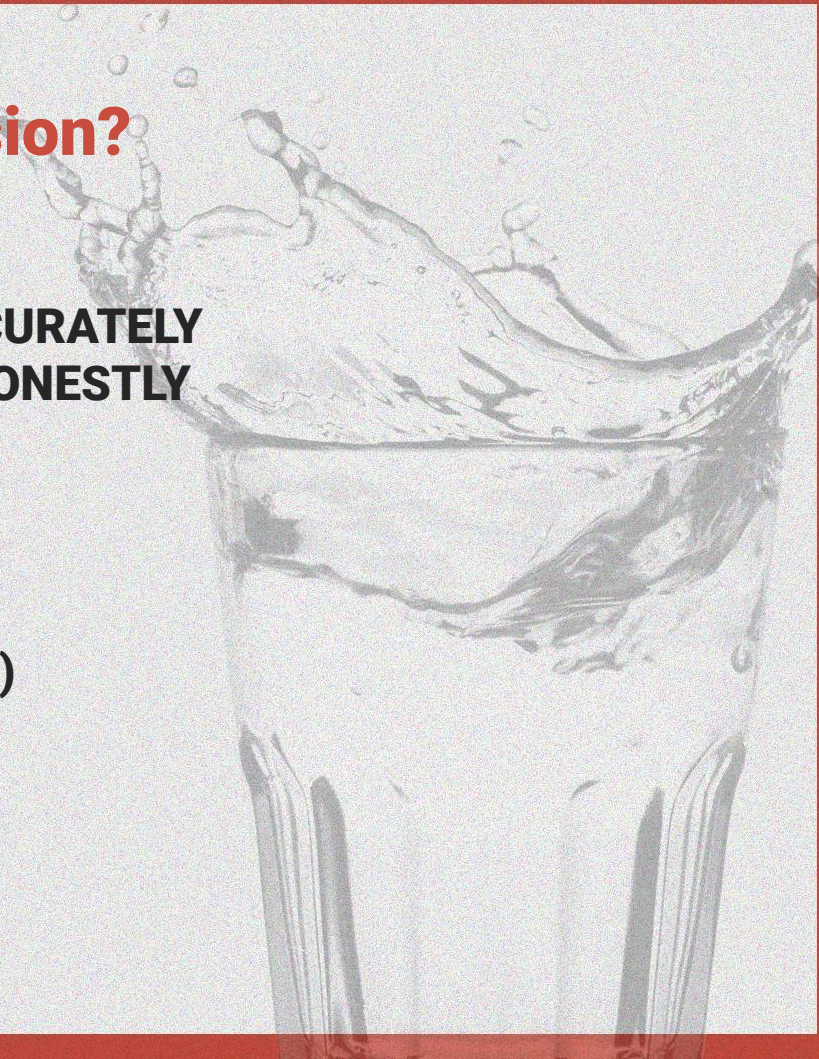
# How Do We Lead A Good Discussion?

## What are we after?

- A teacher wants questions answered **ACCURATELY**
- A facilitator wants questions answered **HONESTLY**

## What is a good question?

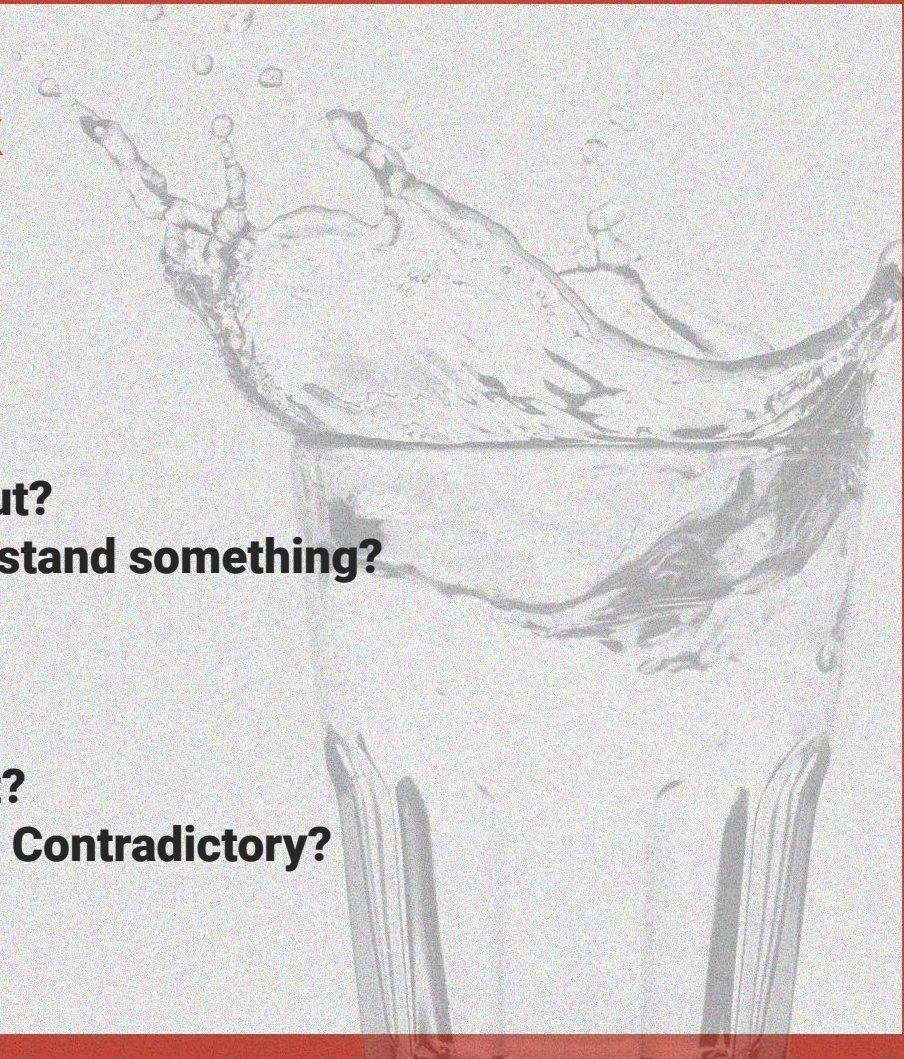
- A question you don't know the answer to
- Don't go fishing!  
(If you have something to say, then say it.)



# Questions That ALWAYS Work

## Two Great Questions

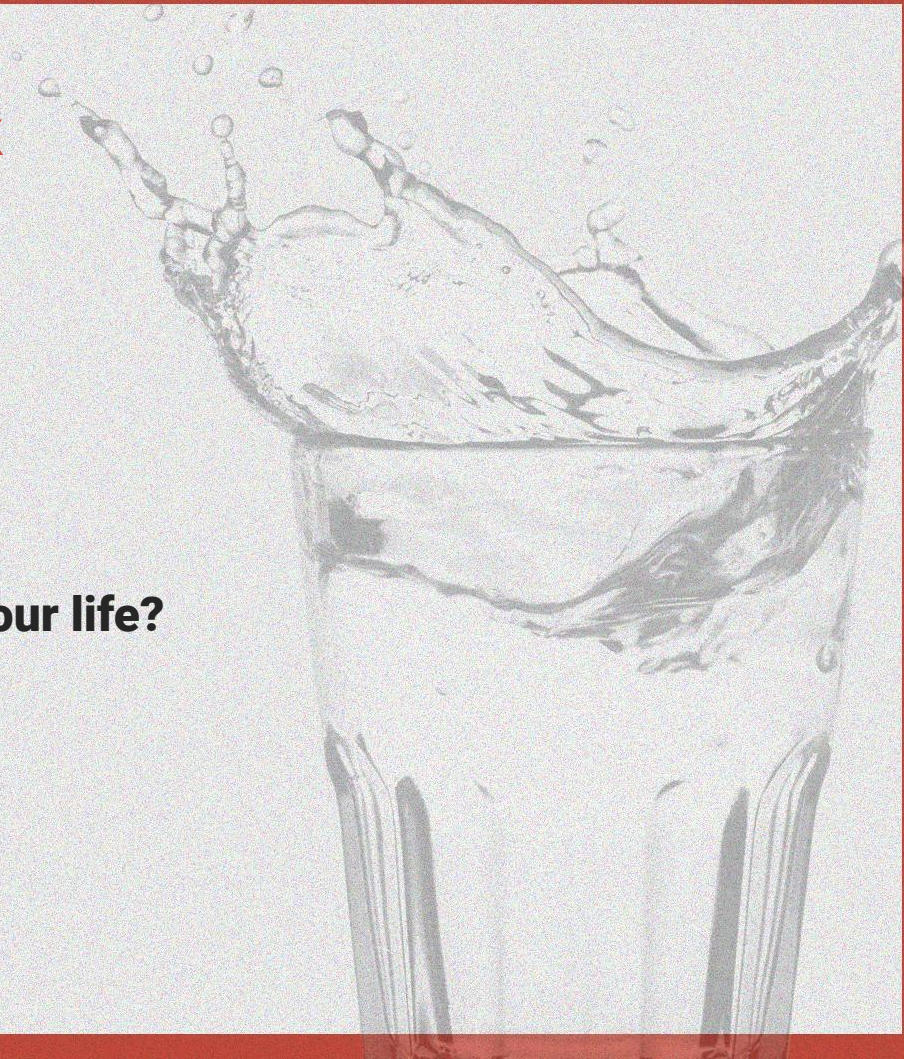
- **What are your exclamation points?**
  - **What grabbed your attention?**
  - **What can't you stop thinking about?**
  - **What changed the way you understand something?**
- **What are your question marks?**
  - **What confused you?**
  - **What are you not sure you accept?**
  - **What do you think is impractical? Contradictory?**



# Questions That ALWAYS Work

## Three Life-Changing Questions

- **What was important to you?**
- **Why was it important to you?**
- **How does that make a difference in your life?**
  - **Great Questions for Prayer Time**

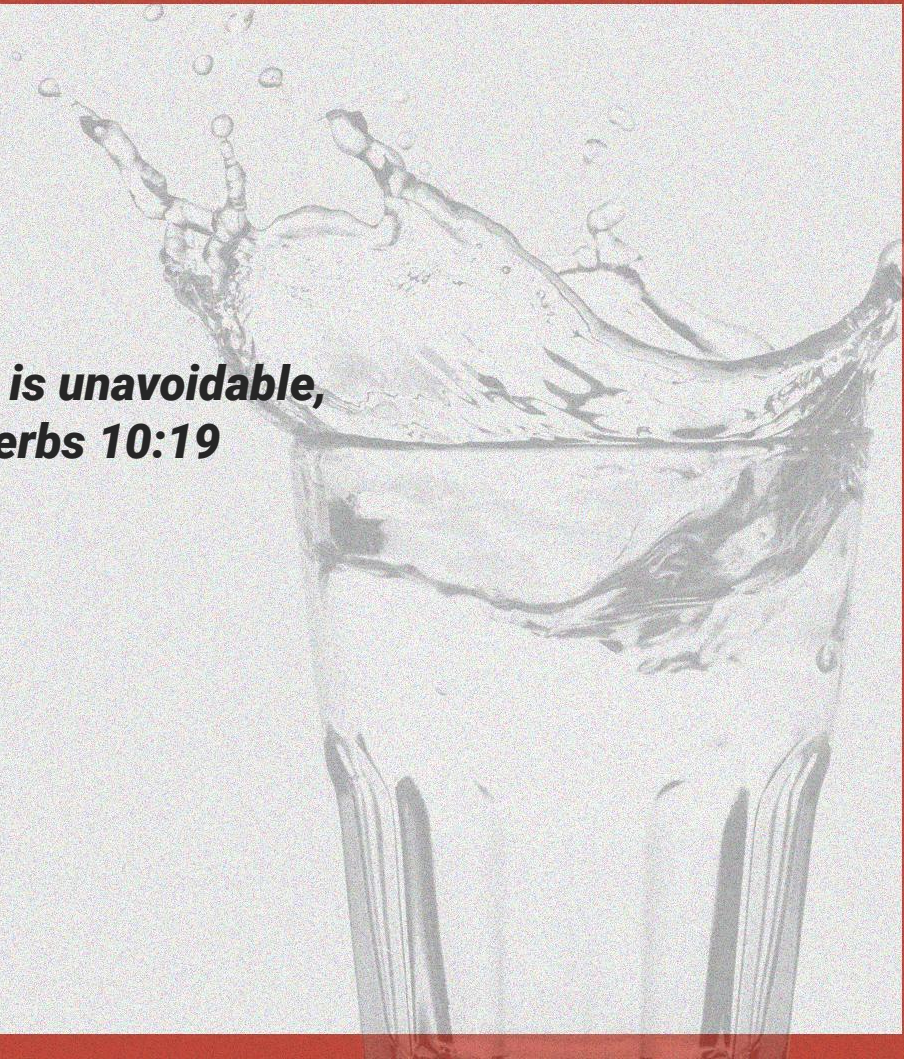


# Create Space For Growth

## Less Is More

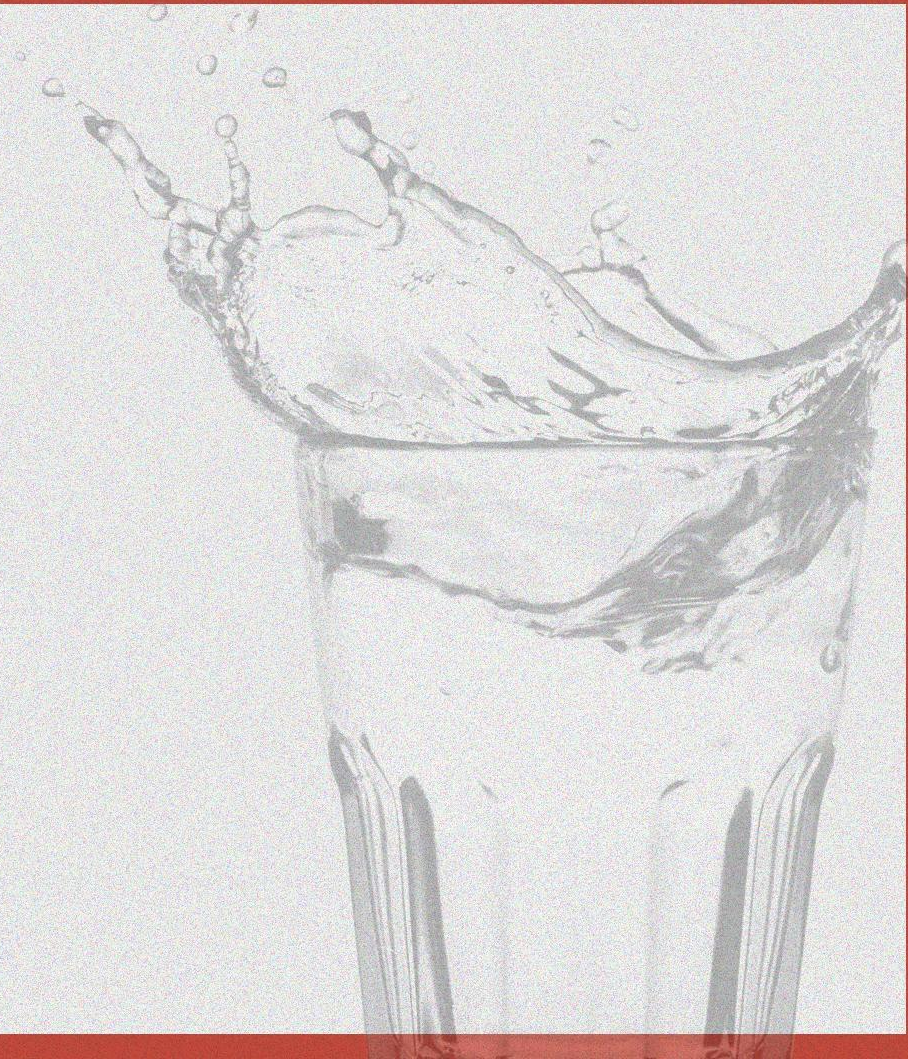
*When there are many words, transgression is unavoidable,  
But he who restrains his lips is wise. -Proverbs 10:19*

## Have The Courage To Remain Silent



# Create Space For Growth

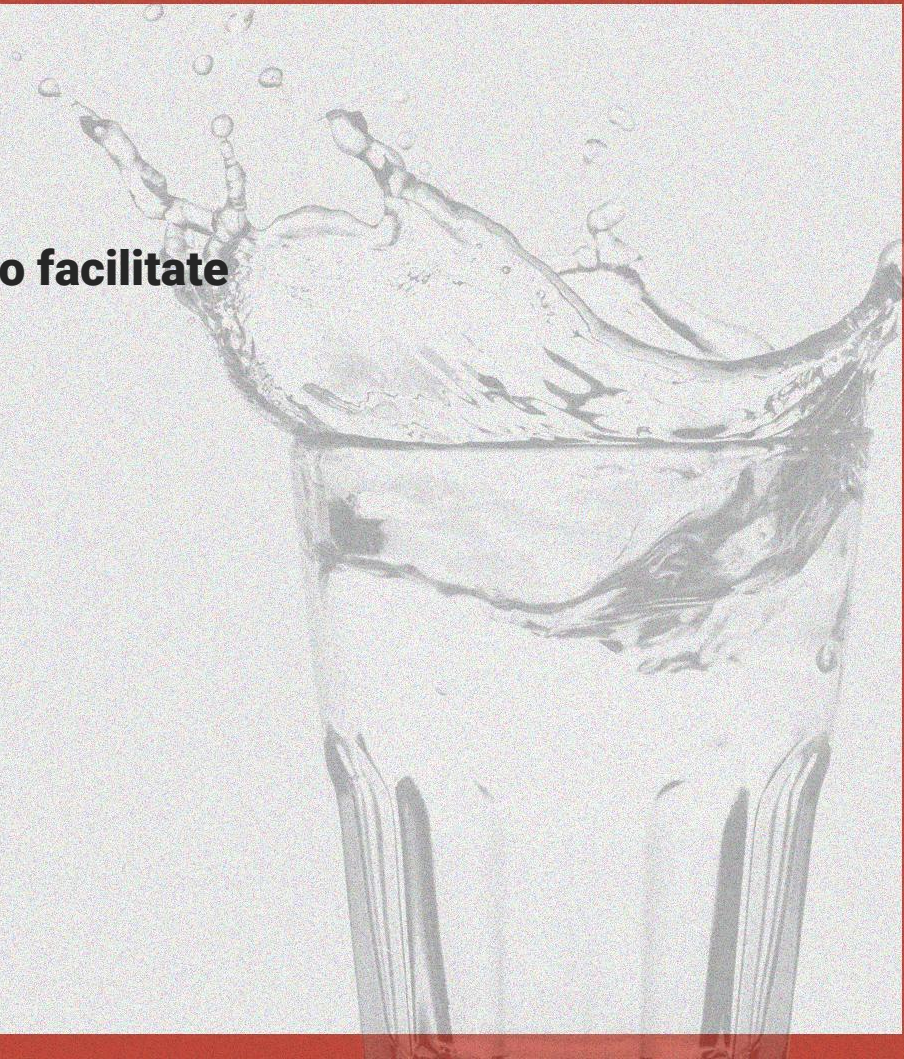
- **Be comfortable with silence**
- **Limit your bandwidth**
- **Encourage the reluctant**
- **Don't be a know-it-all**
- **Leave some questions unasked**
- **Leave some insights unshared**



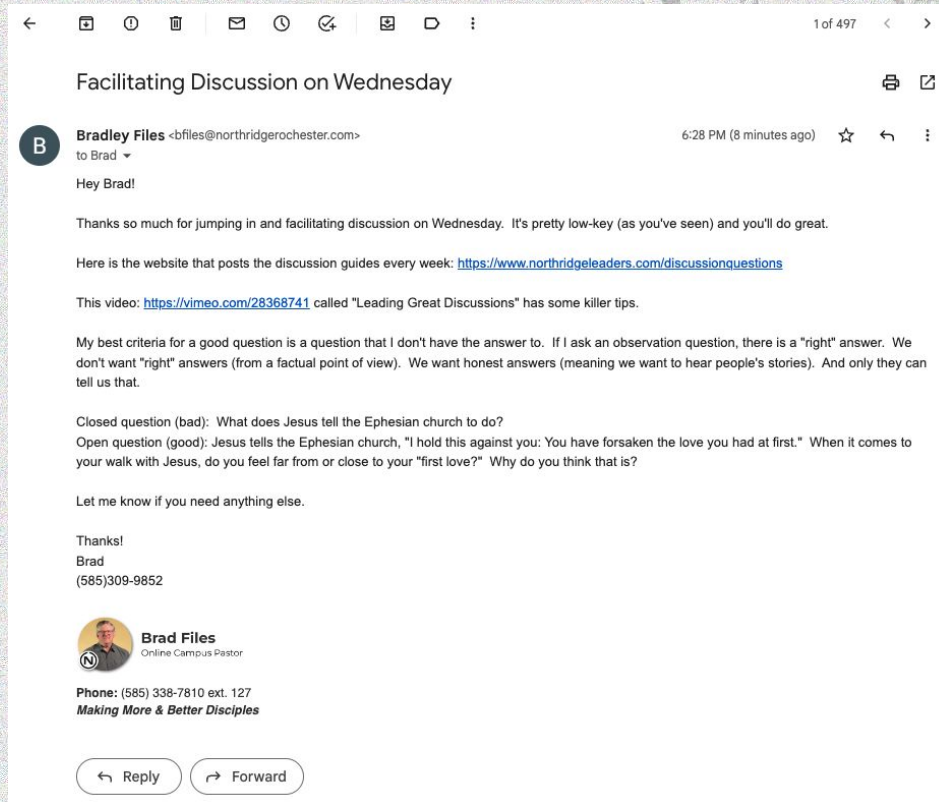


# Share Facilitation

- **Schedule all members of your group to facilitate**
- **Give plenty of notice**
- **Give guidance**
  - **Send Email**



# Share Facilitation



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## Facilitating Discussion on Wednesday

**B** **Bradley Files** <bfiles@northridgechester.com> 6:28 PM (8 minutes ago) ☆ ↶ ⋮  
to Brad ▾

Hey Brad!

Thanks so much for jumping in and facilitating discussion on Wednesday. It's pretty low-key (as you've seen) and you'll do great.

Here is the website that posts the discussion guides every week: <https://www.northridgeleaders.com/discussionquestions>


This video: <https://vimeo.com/28368741> called "Leading Great Discussions" has some killer tips.

My best criteria for a good question is a question that I don't have the answer to. If I ask an observation question, there is a "right" answer. We don't want "right" answers (from a factual point of view). We want honest answers (meaning we want to hear people's stories). And only they can tell us that.

Closed question (bad): What does Jesus tell the Ephesian church to do?  
Open question (good): Jesus tells the Ephesian church, "I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first." When it comes to your walk with Jesus, do you feel far from or close to your "first love?" Why do you think that is?

Let me know if you need anything else.

Thanks!  
Brad  
(585)309-9852

 **Brad Files**  
Online Campus Pastor

Phone: (585) 338-7810 ext. 127  
*Making More & Better Disciples*

↶ Reply   ↷ Forward

# Share Facilitation

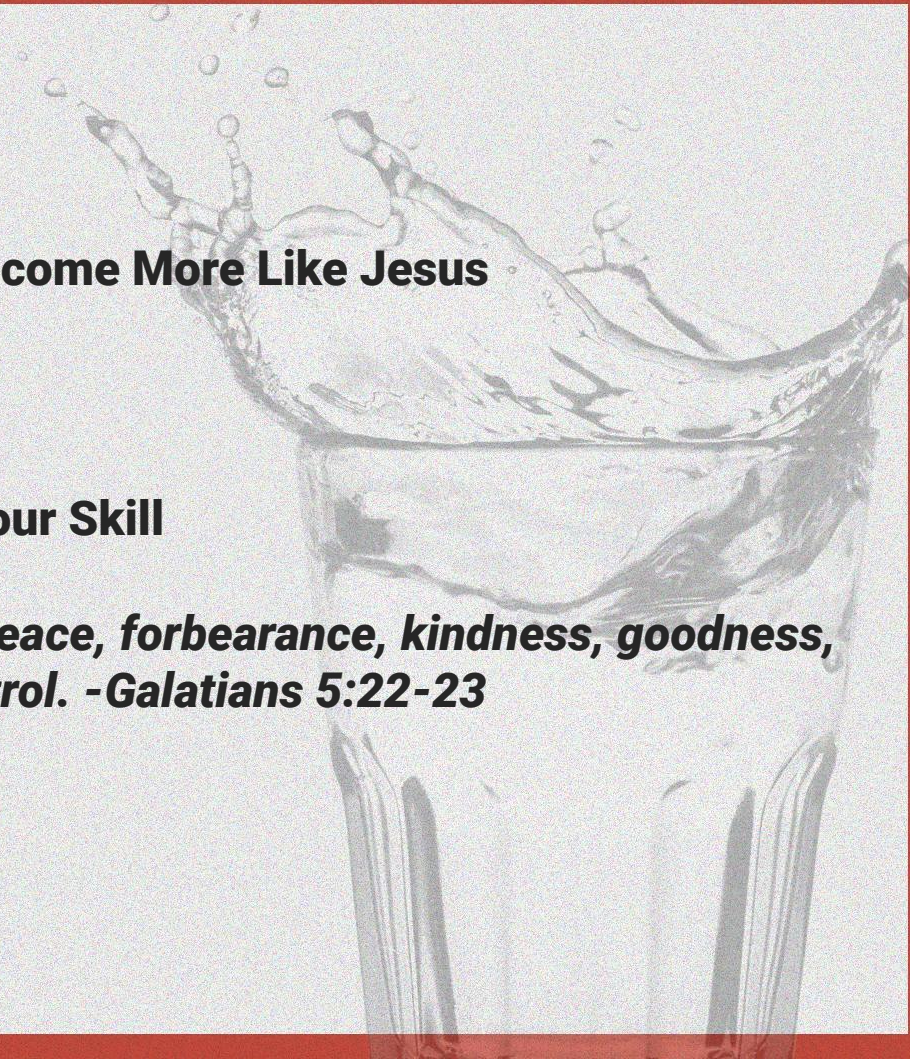
- **Schedule all members of your group to facilitate**
- **Give plenty of notice**
- **Give guidance**
  - **Send Email**
- **Thank and celebrate them**

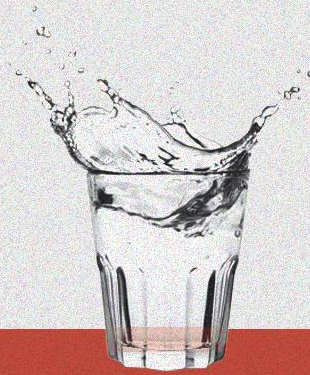


# Keep Your Eyes On The Prize

- **Remember The Goal: Together We Become More Like Jesus**
  - Apply the Bible
  - Build Relationships
  - Care for One Another
- **Your Character Matters More Than Your Skill**

***But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. -Galatians 5:22-23***





**Resources**

**FULL**

## Resources

- ***Now That's A Good Question* by Trip Powell**
- ***Side by Side* by Ed Welch**
- ***NLT Life Application Bible Studies***
- **Weekly Discussion Guides @ [NorthridgeLeaders.com](http://NorthridgeLeaders.com)**
- **Recommended Resources on Northridge Channel @ [RightNowMedia.org](http://RightNowMedia.org)**





**Questions?**

**FULL**