

Chapter Three

Everything Small Groups



Mary



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“

Let your speech always be **gracious**
seasoned with salt so that you may know
how to answer **everyone**.

”

Colossians 4:6



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Why Small Groups

“The best place to support **friendship** is in a small circle of friends.” – *C.S. Lewis*

- ▶ We're made for friendship... and not just with God



Why Small Groups in The Rescue Project

- ▶ We're made for **communion** and the enemy hates it
- ▶ Creates space for **authentic** conversations
- ▶ A place of **accompaniment**
- ▶ Small groups are the **heart** of The Rescue Project



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The Ideal Small Group

- ▶ **Size:** 8 people plus 2 facilitators
- ▶ **Composition:** Let the Spirit lead; be intentional





Facilitating

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What's the role?

The role of the small group facilitator **isn't to teach**, but **rather facilitate** conversation that encourages balanced discussion among everyone in the group.



Who should facilitate?

People who are:

- ▶ Warm, welcoming and joyful
- ▶ Prayerful and attentive to the Holy Spirit
- ▶ Empathetic listeners

and

- ▶ Have a heart for Jesus and the Church
- ▶ Are willing to be a friend on the journey



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Responsibilities

- ▶ Prayer
- ▶ Pre-session huddle
- ▶ Create a warm, welcoming environment
- ▶ When needed, bring clarity and direction to conversations



The unique role of the co-facilitator

- ▶ Eyes and ears for the facilitator
- ▶ Support conversation when necessary
- ▶ Step up when the facilitator is not available





Navigating personalities



The dominant one



The quiet one



The fallen away

Accompaniment

- ▶ During the sessions
- ▶ Informal touch points during the “in between”
 - *Especially between weeks 3 and 4*
- ▶ Be available as the Holy Spirit leads



Small group format



1. Pre-session
huddle



4. Worship



2. Welcome



5. Episode



7. Debrief



3. Food



6. Discussion



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