

THE SMALL GROUP LEADER

Why a Small Group?

- Apply Dunamis material
- Discover & use spiritual gifts
- Minister & pray for each other
- Safely express & address doubts

Core Values

Confidentiality Trust is key. Don't share anything unless given clear permission.

Listening vs. Problem Solving Prioritize empathy. Listen deeply before offering help.

Prayer Center on God. Include honest, conversational prayer each time.

Affirmation Speak life! Recognize each other's gifts and God's view of us.

Recognizing Common Group Dynamics

- 1. **The Dominator**: Monopolizes conversation, shutting down participation.
- 2. The Silent Passive: Withholds themselves when hurt, sharing superficially.
- 3. **The Advice Giver**: Always ready to offer solutions, which can short-circuit genuine care and listening.
- 4. **The Distracter**: Shifts focus away from the group's goals through joking, stories, or tangents.
- 5. **The Dictator**: Controls the group, setting the agenda without consensus, which fosters dependency.
- 6. **The Needer**: Has overwhelming needs, requiring more support than the group can provide, leading to unmet needs for other members.

Handling Challenges

Confrontation – Do it with love and clarity in one-on-one interactions either before or after the meeting. Ask gentle questions like, "Tim, have you noticed how we drift off-topic sometimes?"

Seeking Help – Small groups are where personal growth and transformation occur so addressing issues is crucial for success. If you are struggling in any way, reach out to our small group team leader - Jane Graff: jane@dfcanada.org.