

VIDEO 3: CREATING AN EXPERIENCE

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Helping guests or new life group attendees feel a part of your small group family is important as you look to grow and eventually multiply your small group. This can be in part accomplished by creating a positive first-time guest experience. In the third training video of this series, Rod Whitlock shares some simple ideas to help new people feel right at home, want to come back to your small group, and look forward to the following week.

CREATING A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE FOR YOUR SMALL GROUP:

1. Make an introduction
 - Determine your church's system for small group invitation and master it!
 - Personally invite people to join your small group.
 - Always be prepared with all the information someone may need to attend your small group.
 - **OVERCOMMUNICATE!** It may take a few touch points of communication for someone to come to your small group i.e. in person invitation, text message, and a social media post.
2. Prepare for your small group
 - Make sure the room is prepared
 - Consider seating, lighting, temperature, food, etc.
 - Prepare Spiritually
 - Be prepared for the actual small group time
3. Welcome people
 - Greet them at the door
 - Learn names
 - Anticipate guest's questions i.e. where the bathroom is located
 - 1 Peter 4:8-10
4. Follow-up
 - Create a plan for follow-up
 - Consider meeting with small group members or guests outside of small group time

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Discuss your church's system for inviting people to small groups. Make sure you are familiar with it and ask your group leader questions, if necessary.
2. What are some creative ways to invite people from your church or community to your small group?
3. Imagine it is your first time at a small group. What questions might you have? Write these down and then answer them based on the small group you lead. Let this be a guide for you as you welcome new people to your small group.
4. What are some ways you can follow-up with people in your small group whether they are new or long-time attendees?