

3 Tips to Kick-Start your Small Group Leadership

- 1. PREPARE When is the last time you took a test and thought, "man, I will never wait to study at the last minute again." Believe it or not, this same feeling can happen when leading a small group. Set your group up for success by setting yourself up for success.
 - a. How can you do this?
 - i. Read the lesson.
 - ii. Anticipate answers.
 - iii. Pray for your group.
- 2. SPEAK LESS, LISTEN MORE When is the last time you loved when someone stole a conversation to the point of no return? A common misconception of leading a small group is that it is your responsibility to dominate the conversation. However, it a small group leaders' job to spark conversations and give students a safe space to have conversations.
 - a. How can you do this?
 - i. Learn to embrace silence.
 - ii. Ask follow-up questions.
 - iii. Actively listen to what others say.
- 3. DON'T FORGET TO BE A HUMAN Your job as a small group leader is not to have all the answers. Your job is not to be a biblical scholar. Your job is not to be more impressive than anyone in the room. Your job is to encourage conversations about life and faith and ideally how the two can connect. The quickest way to build equity is for those you lead to know you are a human just like them.
 - a. How can you do this?
 - i. Say "I don't know" when you really don't know.
 - ii. Encourage honesty over perfection.
 - iii. Admit your inadequacies.

This list certainly isn't exhaustive, but it will put you well on your way as you lead this summer. Don't forget to ask your small group leader for advice and feedback. They want to help you win!