

launching new leaders



We want to be leaders who disciple women to go out and be multipliers - to bring the same Holy Spirit atmosphere they experience as a group member to others. As a small group leader, your vision must be to see your group collectively—and its members individually, which may mean launching new leaders and small groups.

Who are the women in your group who have the gifts to lead a new group, but who might be reluctant? Be in prayer that the Lord will reveal those women to you. He may highlight them to you through their leadership gifts, ability to shepherd the women in the group well, or strong ability to draw connections between what you're studying to what the women are experiencing in their everyday lives.

By the end of this study you will probably be able to name a couple women in your group who are ready to take the next step into a leadership role. While you can always encourage the group as a whole to consider leadership, be sure to specifically tap the emerging leaders God reveals on the shoulder and affirm their gifts in front of the group. Alissa and Erin both became small group leaders because someone saw potential and invited them to step into leadership.

You could suggest that these reluctant-yet-ready leaders might want to launch and lead a new group when the next series begins, lead in pairs or as a team, support someone else as a co-leader, or take the reins of the existing group while you get a new group off the ground. Encourage them to take that step of faith. If they're for whatever reason not ready to do a short term group, be sure they get a chance to develop their gifts further by sharing the leadership of your group. And then ask them again.

The important principle here is that the leadership skills developed in your group aren't meant to be kept in your group. God gives gifts for the good of the whole Body of Christ in order to build His Kingdom. When you get it, give it away, and God will give you more.