



# SMALL GROUP TIPS AND TRICKS

## Small Groups Childcare Checklist

A common question for many Small Groups is, "What do we do with the kids?" Some people think that children in the Group are a blessing, for others having kids present can be distracting, so it's important that every Group member clearly understands the arrangements that their group has made for kids.

### **There are typically three options for every group that faces this question of Kids:**

- > Drop the kids off at your church. Check with your church to see if group childcare is provided.
- > Include the kids in your Group allowing them to answer questions, read Scripture, and pray..
- > Arrange for childcare.

### **The information that follows will help your group jointly determine what steps will be taken to address the question of childcare.**

Because the safety of our children is so important, here are two important things to consider when arranging child care for your Small Group:

- > When Children are "on site" consider having them supervised in an adjacent room with the door open.
- > When Children are "off site" (i.e. another house) consider having them supervised by at least two responsible individuals at least one of whom is an adult.

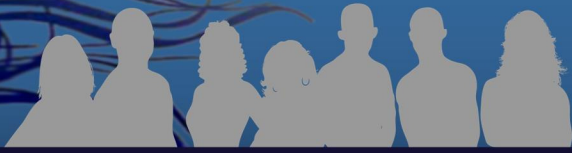
Keeping these two things in mind, it is also important to plan ahead and make the right childcare choices for your group so that childcare won't become a burden. When deciding what to do for your group childcare, these are seven important questions for each group member to weigh in on:

#### **1. What is the agreed upon childcare approach for our group?**

- ☐ No children are present except for nursing infants
- ☐ Intergenerational—we include all children
- ☐ Group members take turns caring for children
- ☐ We hire a babysitter for the whole group
- ☐ Other options \_\_\_\_\_

#### **2. Where should our group childcare be?**

- ☐ In the same house as the Group, but in a separate room
- ☐ At another location (a babysitter's, neighbor's, Group member's house, etc.)
- ☐ Wherever individual parents can arrange it



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## 3. If applicable, who will pay for childcare?

- ☐ All of the members who have children
- ☐ The whole group passes around a hat
- ☐ No one—it's free

## 4. What resources will be provided for childcare providers?

- ☐ Family friendly videos such as *Veggie Tales* or *Disney*
- ☐ Books for different age groups
- ☐ Games and toys for different age groups
- ☐ Coloring/activity books
- ☐ Other options \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. What groups or individuals are available for childcare?

- ☐ Teenagers children of Group members
- ☐ "Grandparents"—older family or friends who are willing to help
- ☐ A rotation of members from our own group
- ☐ A rotation of members from other groups that meet on a different night of the week, and then we return the favor
- ☐ Other options \_\_\_\_\_

## 6. Who is responsible for lining up the childcare?

- ☐ The Group leader
- ☐ A designated person in each group (possibly the apprentice)
- ☐ Other options \_\_\_\_\_

## 7. What, if anything, would we like our children to be taught?

- ☐ Childcare provider should just look for "teachable moments".
- ☐ Curriculum or Lessons purchased by the group
- ☐ Nothing in particular