



GROUPS MATTER.

Teaching to the Needs in Your Group

To teach effectively, you must know the needs of the people in your class.

BY: *Bruce Raley*

FROM: *GroupsMatter.com/Launch*

Salvation is a step, but it is not the only step. The day a person in your group accepts Christ is a great day and worthy of being celebrated. But that day marks the beginning of a new role for you, that of discipler.

Think of an outstanding Bible study leader who made a difference in your life.

What were the qualities of that person?

What made that Bible study leader unique?

What made that Bible study leader effective?

Most group leaders desire to be effective. They want to make a difference in the lives of people. Paul identified our role as teachers when he proclaimed that, “We proclaim Him, warning and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ” (Colossians 1:28).

Paul said we are to proclaim Jesus by teaching everyone: every age, both the lost and the believer. Certainly, we want everyone to accept Christ, but more than that, we want everyone to mature as disciples. We must learn to teach so that all are challenged. Some will need milk. Others will need solid food. A few will need some meat. All these folks will be in your class. To teach effectively, you must know the needs of the people in your class. It will take time, but it is required if the goal is to teach everyone.

Starting new groups makes it possible for a Bible study leader to be a better teacher. The larger a group becomes, the more difficult it is for a teacher to know the needs of the people in his or her class. He may be able to make a great presentation, but real teaching requires a relationship.

Everyone means everyone. We are to take the gospel to all through our teaching. Why? So that we may present everyone mature in Christ. ■