

## Winning Friends & Influencing People (Part 2)

### A QUICK LOOK BACK: *Why Winning Friends & Influencing People Is So Important*

#### SIX TRAITS TO LIVE BY

- (1) **LOVE**  
*Choosing to give more than we get in our relationships*
- (2) **DEPENDABILITY**  
*Fulfilling our responsibilities AND keeping our commitments*
- (3) **HUMILITY**  
*Treating others as an Honored Guest*
- (4) **THICK SKIN**  
Proverbs 19:11 & 17:14 Ecclesiastes 7:21-22 Matthew 18:21-35 & 6:12
  
- (5) **VERBAL ETIQUETTE**  
Proverbs 17:27-28, 15:28, 22:11, 27:14 Proverbs 15:1 & 10:19  
Proverbs 23:9, 12:25, & 25:20 & Romans 12:15
  
- (6) **TAKE THE FIRST STEP**  
Proverbs 18:1 Proverbs 25:21-22

# Growth Group Homework

For the week of September 20, 2015

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## Welcome to the Fall Quarter of Growth Groups!

This week we kick off our Fall Growth Group quarter. Your first meeting will include a potluck dinner, time to get acquainted, as well as time to discuss your Growth Group Covenant. The homework has been shortened this week to allow ample time to accomplish this.

To prepare for this week's meeting, take some time to focus on the questions below and be prepared to share your answers with the group. Have a great first meeting as you come together to connect, encourage one another to grow and to see God change your lives from the inside out!

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### GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. What's something you did this past summer that was fun or enjoyable (i.e. going to a concert, swimming, family gathering, vacation, barbeque, etc.)?
2. What is something you've done that you think no one else in your group has ever done?
3. The last two weeks Larry talked about the six traits that will help us win friends and influence people. Can you think of anyone who has used one or more of these traits to influence your life? If so, explain how they used that trait (or traits) to have an impact on you.
4. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

### DIGGING DEEPER

1. Larry mentioned that when a relationship goes south, we are to take the first step toward reconciliation. How do the following passages help you better understand what it means to take the first step?

#### **Matthew 5:23-24**

<sup>23</sup> "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, <sup>24</sup> leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift. *[NIV]*

#### **Matthew 7:1-5**

*Judging Others*

<sup>7:1</sup> "Do not judge, or you too will be judged. <sup>2</sup> For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

<sup>3</sup> "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? <sup>4</sup> How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out

of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? <sup>5</sup> You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye. [NIV]

**Mark 11:25**

<sup>25</sup> And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins." [NIV]

**Matthew 18:25**

<sup>25</sup> Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. [NIV]

Can you think of any challenges a person might face putting these responsibilities into action?

2. One of the ways we can avoid what Larry called "the Messiah Complex" is to work at understanding the other person's point of view and concerns. In order to do this, we have to take the focus off ourselves and put it on them. What principles or guidelines do you find in these verses that could help you develop a greater understanding of the other person's point of view?

**James 1:19**

*Listening and Doing*

<sup>19</sup> My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, [NIV]

**Proverbs 11:12**

<sup>12</sup> Whoever derides their neighbor has no sense,  
but the one who has understanding holds their tongue. [NIV]

**Proverbs 18:13**

<sup>13</sup> To answer before listening—  
that is folly and shame. [NIV]

**Proverbs 20:5**

<sup>5</sup> The purposes of a person's heart are deep waters,  
but one who has insight draws them out. [NIV]

**Philippians 2:3-4**

<sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, <sup>4</sup> not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. [NIV]

**TAKING IT HOME**

In preparation for going over the Covenant in your Growth Group, take a moment to jot down some of the reasons you joined a Growth Group this quarter. What are you looking forward to the most?

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## THE PURPOSE OF GROWTH GROUPS

Growth Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful Christian relationships and the study of God's Word. (Romans 8:29 & Hebrews 10:24-25). Here's how it will happen:

### SHARE

Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives.

At first this sharing will include planned "sharing questions." But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as we feel more comfortable.

### STUDY

Each week we'll study a section from God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life.

### SUPPORT

Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (John 15:9-13). This care can take many forms, such as prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another and meeting real needs.

### SERVE

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the community in which we live (Ephesians 4:11-16).

Throughout the quarter, it is our hope that you can find and/or be affirmed in the ways God has designed you to serve and make a difference in God's Kingdom.



### REAL MAN WEEKEND – "The Oakbridge Experience" - Oct. 9-11

We've got another epic weekend planned that will get you recharged and refreshed as a man following God. The weekend will also include plenty of man event options like paintball, mountain biking, sports, hiking, golf, sleeping and eating, etc.

**Sign up online today!** [store.northcoastchurch.com/realman](http://store.northcoastchurch.com/realman)