

LAMPLIGHTERS INTERNATIONAL – DISCIPLE-MAKER TIP #19

TITLE: "WHO ARE YOU?"

Do you see your leadership role as a small group moderator, a Bible teacher, or a small group discipleship leader?

How you see your leadership role will affect both your lesson preparation and leadership of the group. If you see yourself merely as a class moderator, your dominant goal will likely be giving everyone equal time to share. Unity of the group, rather than really understanding the truth, is often the leader's objective when he sees himself as a class moderator. On the other hand, the leader who sees himself as a Bible teacher will often dominate the class discussion, fail to complete the weekly lessons, and inadvertently discourage the class members from participating in the discussion time.

Ted Turner, owner (and atheist) of the Atlanta Braves baseball team and founder of CNN, made this important statement, "Lead, follow, or get out of the way." As a Lamplighters leader, you are a leader, a discipleship Bible Study leader. You are not a traditional Bible teacher so don't monopolize the discussion time. But you are more than a class moderator who simply facilitates a class discussion where truth is often determined by majority opinion.

So what do you do ...?

1. Truly accept God's call for your life and lead your group with confidence. **The reason you are leading is because God has chosen you to serve Him in this ministry.** You don't need a Bible college or seminary degree – we have done the theological work for you.
2. Study your weekly lesson thoroughly and let God speak to your heart through His Word.
3. Learn the Leader's Guide so well that you really understand the truth(s) that are being taught. Knowledge (of God's Word) breeds confidence (to speak God's Word). You don't have to be a Bible scholar.
4. Lead (don't moderate) your group confidently to spiritual victory, knowing God has chosen you to serve Him in this ministry.

Remember: Lead, follow, or get out of the way.