



How to Empower Future Connect Group Facilitators

Consider current group members as potential future facilitators and be prepared to recommend them at the end of each season. This way, King of Kings can uplift and empower more individuals, multiply our groups and their reach, and make a greater impact for the Kingdom.

As the season progresses, you'll begin to identify promising potential leaders who display compassion, command, and a servant's heart. Here are some ways to help develop their leadership traits and potentially prepare them for a role as a facilitator in the future.

1. **Pray at every step of the process.** As your Connect Group begins meeting at the start of the season, ask God to help you identify potential facilitators who would be receptive to the idea. Pray that God would work in them and empower them. At the end of the season, pray with them to determine if a facilitator role is the right move. Involve God in every step of your mentorship process.
2. **Tell them you think they'd be a great facilitator.** Who doesn't love a compliment? Encouragement goes beyond brightening someone's day; it plants the seed for potential leadership in their minds. Because of that seed, they'll pay closer attention to how you conduct your Connect Group and begin to consider ways they would lead and handle specific situations. Without even realizing it, they'll start developing leadership traits.
3. **Meet one on one.** Set aside time to grab coffee, share a meal, go for a walk, or just hang out. During this time, let the member know why you think they'd be a great facilitator ("It's clear you have a heart for..."; "I appreciate how you..."; "I can see you have a real talent for..."). Outline what the responsibilities of a facilitator are and ask if they would consider the role in the future.
4. **Create opportunities for them to step up.** Allow members to take on facilitator responsibilities each week, such as beginning and leading prayers, introducing icebreaker questions, reporting attendance, and asking questions during discussion. Don't overload them with several responsibilities at once; slowly introduce more responsibility as the season progresses.
5. **Provide feedback.** As you delegate responsibilities, provide constructive feedback on the potential facilitator's performance. Praise the things they did well while offering tips and coaching on areas of improvement.
6. **Ask for their opinions.** Ask the member to share their thoughts about the group: what's working, what could potentially improve, how the other group members

interact, etc. This not only improves the current group and your leadership, but it gets the member thinking about what makes a small group successful.

7. **Be respectful if they say no.** The member may not desire to facilitate a Connect Group, (at least at this time), and it's important to be respectful of that. Encourage them and be willing to listen if they express that being a facilitator isn't something they'd like to do right now. Let them know that you still think they'd be a great leader and you're available to support them if they change their mind.
8. **Remain available.** Continue mentoring as the new facilitator leads their own Connect Group. They'll likely run into new scenarios that they might not know how to deal with, or they might just seek guidance and wisdom. Remain in consistent communication and provide the support and encouragement they need to lead with confidence.