

Tips on Encouraging Attendance

Another challenge you may encounter with some members of your group is tardiness and attendance. Here are some tips that Eugene Kimble offers based on his experience in encouraging attendance.

- A. As the shepherd of your small flock group, your flock's spiritual health should be your main responsibility.
- B. When you start your new small flock group, establish your group covenant during the first couple of meeting.
 - 1. Ensure that every member receives a copy of the covenant and agrees to abide by it.
 - 2. Periodically review a particular section of your Small Flock Group Covenant and, if some members are weak, conclude by encouraging them to live up to their agreement. If more than one are having problems with attendance, you conclude your discussion by asking them to recommit to keeping the agreement.
- C. Whenever members miss, contact them by phone to let them know you missed them and care for them.
- D. When members call and tell you they won't be able to make a meeting, ask them if there are any prayer requests that they'd like you to pass on to the group. Let them know that you remain committed to them and encourage them in their walk with the Lord.
- E. If you feel uneasy about some absentees, contact them for a visit. Then tell them about your concern, that they are valued members of the group, and that chronic absenteeism unsettles the entire structure of your group. Ask them if they can improve their attendance and conclude with prayer.
- F. After every session contact your group by e-mailing the prayer requests and praises and follow with another e-mail just to communicate with them. You will always under communicate, and never overdo it.
- G. If you need more help, contact your coach.