

GATHERING GROUPS TO WIN

TWO OPTIONS

1. Lead people to Christ one-by-one or two-by-two, and then bring them together as a church.
2. Lead people to Christ by groups, and then help each group become a church.

Which of these options do you use?

Which do you think is more likely to spark a movement?

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

Christians found groups of people already gathered and proclaimed the Gospel to them.

List a few examples:

An unexpected event caused a group of people to gather. Christians proclaimed the Gospel to them.

List a few examples:

Christians performed a miracle which drew a group of people. They then proclaimed the Gospel to them.

List a few examples:

Christians entered houses and proclaimed the Gospel to entire households.

List a few examples:

WHO TO FIND OR GATHER IN GROUPS

What others can you add? Circle those you tend to us. Underline those you want to start using.

Children	Handicapped	Neighbors	Workers' associations
Co-workers	Households	Religious groups	Youth
Couples	Interest groups	Singles	
Families	Men	Sports teams	
Friends	Mothers	Women	

WHEN TO FIND OR GATHER GROUPS

What others can you add? Circle those you tend to us. Underline those you want to start using.

Anniversaries	Harvest time	Rites of passage events
Baptisms	Holidays	School presentations
Birthdays	House blessings	Seminars
Business meetings	Inductions	Sports events
Child dedications	Memorial services	Store openings
Civic events	National holidays	Television programs
Funerals	OFW arrivals and departures	Thanksgiving events
Game days / nights	Recognition events	Valentine's Day
Graduations	Renewal of marriage vows	Weddings

WHERE TO FIND OR GATHER GROUPS

What others can you add? Circle those you tend to us. Underline those you want to start using.

Community clubs	Parks	Sitting areas
Government buildings	Places of interest	Sports facilities
Houses	Places of work	Stores
Jails	Plazas	Transportation terminals
Malls	Religious buildings	Vehicles (boats, buses, etc.)
Markets	Restaurants	
	Schools	

WHY FIND OR GATHER GROUPS

It makes better use of our limited time and energy.

Group members already have relationships with each other.

The group members are apt to be positively challenged by others in their own group.

It can reduce the gossip about what we are doing.

The Holy Spirit often moves in groups.

The group could become the core of a new congregation.

Groups already have indigenous leadership.

Certain needs (sense of belonging; practical help; agape love; sense of significance; unity; etc) can only be met when people are in groups.

APPLICATION

What else have you learned or what else can you foresee about the value of finding or gathering groups before sharing the Gospel with people?