

Guidelines for LEADERS giving a Teaching!

1. Personal Note from PJP

1a. As one who has a teaching gift, I am SO EXCITED about this format. In my opinion, this is the ALL TIME BEST format for any teacher of God's Word. I hope that you enjoy it as much as I do.

1b. If a person is a boring teacher, and the people draw AWAY from Jesus rather than draw CLOSER to Jesus – this is the responsibility of the Pastor and I will have to answer to God.

1c. Solid Rock people are VERY GRACIOUS. They rarely complain and will praise a leader's teaching even if he/she was boring, confusing, unclear, or non-applicable. Thus, it is important for the leader's assistant to watch closely the people's reactions to the teacher. If a teacher is anointed, then the ENTIRE group will respond enthusiastically.

2. What if the Small Group Leader feels led to teach REGULARLY?

As long as the teacher stays within the format stated below, and PJP has approved it, the fruit of the person's teaching and leadership anointing will show in the attendance, and be confirmed by the other leaders.

3. What is the format required to teach in a Small Group.

3a. the small group leader needs to be a faithful small group leader for at least two years.

1st Tim 5:22 Do not appoint people to church leadership positions too hastily.

3b. Study the subject at LEAST one hour for every one minute that you will be speaking. We don't expect anyone to teach like anyone else, but we do expect every teacher at SRM to work as hard as PJP does for any teaching that is given. We require excellence from every leader at SRM and never want laziness or complacency to cause God's people to suffer. The Holy Spirit can speak to you **1x** about your subject, **or 200x**, all depending on how much you study, meditate, and practice your teaching.

2nd Tim 2:15 study diligently to do your best for God...and teach accurately and skillfully the Word of Truth.

3c. The material that is being taught must be approved at least two weeks in advance by PJP or a leader whom PJP has designated. PJP is held accountable to God as the Senior Pastor of SRM.

3d. the leader will practice his/her teaching at LEAST one time before the week prior to the meeting- in front of PJP and/or a leader designated by PJP in order to receive positive instruction to produce better results.

1st Tim 4:15 practice, cultivate, and meditate upon your gift and duties, so that your progress may be evident.

3e. The teacher will always have a handout for every person in the meeting. This handout can be as detailed or as simple as the teacher would like and will always include at least one scripture and three positive discussion questions.

Habakkuk 2:2 Then the Lord told me: **Write** down clearly what I reveal to you so that everyone may read it easily.

3f. the first part of the teaching will never go longer than 15 minutes MAX (10 minutes is excellent). This allows room for the Holy Spirit to add to the message.

Acts 24:4 But in order **not to weary** you further, I would request that you be kind enough to hear us **briefly**.

* Jesus sermons lasted an average of seven minutes. If you have more thoughts than can't be shared in 15 minutes, then a second teaching or a series of teachings might be an option.

* Since the handout will be available, the teacher can actually hit the highlights of the teaching and use the handout for people who want further study.

3g. the rest of the teaching will consist of discussion time. The Discussion will always be an "Open Topic" Discussion and an "Around the Room Pace" Discussion. The end result is that the discussion will cause the overall teaching length to be approx. 30-45 minutes.

This is an AWESOME OPPORTUNITY. The Teacher will be able to:

* Find out what the people heard & learn which points had the greatest impact.

* Graciously correct misunderstandings.

* Gain new insights from other people's comments and have immediate feedback.

Personally, if we were not constrained by size & time, I would love to teach this way from the pulpit.

There are 3 questions we ask every leader who desires to teach.

1. do you believe God has given you the gift of teaching (to help people to learn) or do you simply want to share a testimony/praise report?

James 3:1 Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.

2. do you believe that the teaching you are going to give is from God to the people of SRM?

3. Is the subject that you want to teach, easy to apply to our life and uplifting for anyone who hears it?

Eph. 4:11-13 It was He who gave some to be apostles, prophets, evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be **built up** until we all reach **unity in the faith** and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature,

4. will everyone in your group love Jesus more after they are a part of your teaching?

Eph 4:29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

The same guidelines will be required for any leader who desires to speak at Men's Fellowship, except:

3a. the leader must have been faithful in attendance of men's fellowship for at least one year.

3g. the discussion time will be open discussion and the leader will have to facilitate it w/positive authority as to minimize the time allotted and keep the atmosphere fun and exciting. The Q & A time could simply be 3-5 minutes.

PJP final comment: The true heart of a teacher is to take someone at whatever level they're on and help them grow higher. The beauty of asking questions provides more potential for success as each person gives the answer that God has put in their hearts. Ps 1:2 and Josh 1:8.

What a wonderful way to study and eat of God's Word!!!