

GROUP PROBLEMS AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM:

1. Too Talkative:

- Ask: "What does someone else think?"
- Talk to them privately about the problem.
- Ask them to listen and ask questions to "help me out" in the next session.
- Assign them the project of listening to summarize.

2. Wrong Answers Given:

- Guide by letting the group comment or by having some more mature Christians in your group who can contribute a biblical foundation to your discussion.
- Ask: "What Scriptures help us here?" or: "Let's look at _____ (reference) and see how this Scripture speaks to our discussion viewpoint."
- Counsel anyone with a special need privately after the meeting.

3. Non-involved:

- Ask: "Anyone want to add something here?"
- "Just those who haven't spoken before on this question."
- Personal encouragement—take time alone with any reticent person.

4. Sidetracks:

- "Sometime that topic would be an interesting study, but right now the question is _____."
- Face the fact: "I think we're off the track." Repeat the launch question for the section.

Build up One Another

Instant call of Scripture is for Christians to build up fellow God's Word is plain; in its most comprehensive form we are called to love one another as Christ loved us, (1 John 4:21), many times in the New Testament we find expressions that call Christians to be or to do something for "one another."

We are to:

- ***Love one another*** (Rom. 13:8), for that is the fulfillment of the law of God.
- ***Receive one another*** (Rom. 15:7), that is, accept one another because Christ has received us; this brings God the glory he deserves.
- ***Admonish one another*** (Rom. 15:14), which is urging one another toward godly Christian behavior (see also Col. 3:16).
- ***Care for one another*** (1 Cor. 12:25), that is, look after one another's spiritual welfare (and physical if need be).
- ***Bear one another's burdens*** (Gal. 6:2); we are to help one another through the tough times and problems that come to us.
- ***Belong to one another*** as members of God's forever family. (Eph. 4:25)
- ***Be kind to one another***, forgiving one another (Eph. 4:32).
- ***Comfort one another*** (1 Thess. 4:18) with the fact that Jesus is coming again.
- ***Pray for one another*** (James 5:16), for that will have great positive results in the life of the one prayed for.