

**...And the Lord added to their number day by day
those who were being saved.**

Acts 2:42-47

From time to time your group might be in the position to add new members. This may happen because some regular members have moved on, it may happen because you just want to open the doors and welcome in some fresh faces. Whatever the case, I'd like to provide you with some tips to help the process along.

First though, I would challenge your group to read the full passage referenced above, Acts 2:42-47. It is an excellent picture of a vital local church ministry - the first local church ministry. If you want to make your group attractive to new members, then the principles of the early church should be within the heart of your group.

You may not be practicing each of these things in a larger than life way at the moment, but the mindset and heart condition of a group striving towards these principals is important if vitality is to be a mark of your group.



Adding new members to your group is a risk. You likely have an established comfort level that has you set in familiar rhythm. But adding new people from time to time is a good way to revitalize something comfortable that may have become stagnant. Engaging with others is worthwhile, so I applaud and encourage the effort.

View the suggestions below as an open and incomplete list. Maybe they will stir and spur your creativity to come up with some ideas of your own.

Know

KNOW who you are as a group so new prospects have a clear sense of what to expect

- Who is your group - what is its make up
- What is your function or goal
- When do you meet
- How often do you meet
- What does a typical meeting look like
- Who is your leader
- What are you currently studying

Move

You know what info will be helpful for people to know, now you need to MOVE and find them! You could...

- Make a simple invite to a new church attendee, or to someone you've always wanted to get to know
- Have a BBQ or potluck with an open invitation
- Sit by people you don't know at the next church function
- Advertise in the bulletin
- Ask the pastoral staff if they know of people who might fit

In the end there's no way of getting around it. If you're going to add new members to your group, the best practice is to get out there and do it.

And you can—you can indeed do it!

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