

The Fifth Phase: Multiplying

Acts 2:47 “And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.” You are building your body and your group is going well but what now? Now we multiply. We are not called to stay stagnant, but to grow and to reach as many people for Christ as possible. It is time to start new works. We are not dividing our groups or splitting, we are multiplying in order to reach as many for Christ as possible until the day He returns. So, there are several options for doing so.

Option 1: Observation. Your responsibility as a leader is to evaluate and get to know the people in your group. Start noticing people that you see God calling to go out and multiply this body. They may want to branch out and start a totally new group or get involved in Welcome Back, parole, probation, or an AA or NA group. It should be someone who is willing to go out and find ex-offenders and their families that haven't been impacted by the church.

Option 2: You could also multiply by deciding amongst your group to make two groups. For example, if you have a lot of families from one area of town and others from another, you have a possibility for multiplication. Talk to your group about forming two groups, one that meets on the west side of town and one on the east. This could also be useful if you have a lot of college students and adults. Multiply and have a college group and an adult group.

Option 3: Life transformation groups. If a life transformation groups gets up to four people, create two groups of two. After doing so a few times, you could actually branch out and start your own group.

Option 4: Create your own. There is not a particular way that you are forced to multiply. If you can think of it, you can do it. Just make sure that it is best for your group and that you communicate with your group what is going on. Make them a part of the decision-making process and include them in the prayer for the new starts.

What to do once you've decided to multiply: Take your new leaders of your new groups under your wing. Bring them alongside you and let them be involved. Let them lead worship for a few weeks before they launch their group. Share with the rest of the group that you plan on starting a new group. Have your group continually praying for the new launch. Remember, this is not just about our groups. This is about reaching people for the Kingdom of God. We are called to proclaim the Word all over the world, and if we are not multiplying, if we are just staying the same, how can we do that?

Jeremiah 20:9 “But if I say, ‘I will not mention him or speak any more in his name,’ his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot.”