

Growing Yourself First

Have you ever noticed that what God is teaching you is often what God uses for you to bless and encourage others? That's not a coincidence. Your own spiritual growth is a key component to what God can do through your Small Group. Leaders go first, and because you live in that reality as you grow in your walk with God, here are a few tips to encourage you as you lead.

- **You have some great resources around you.** Not only do you have access to weekly teachings from Pastor Mitch, you also have other resources that can keep you actively engaged in what God is doing in our church. The Victory Church website gives you access to previous sermons, podcasts, RightNow Media and much more. Another resource we recommend taking advantage of is your Small Group Coach. Each leader is assigned a Small Group Coach who can come alongside you for prayer, encouragement, and to answer any of your questions.
- **Evaluate how you best learn.** You know yourself better than anyone else. Take a look at how you learn, study, and retain things. Whether you're learning how to implement a new skill or you're studying a certain topic in the Bible, evaluate how you best receive and retain information. Some learn best through visuals such as video illustrations on Youtube, reading articles online or a book, or listening to a podcast. However you learn best, discipline yourself to do it on a daily basis.
- **It's not a project; it's a process.** Development is about embracing the process and learning from what God is teaching you in that process. Your commitment to the process of growing in your relationship with Christ will not only lead you to become a better Small Group leader, but will open up new ways to see what God can do through you.

Above are some practical tips and thoughts, but don't forget about your Small Group Pastor, Cameron Peedin. He is there to support you and connect with you. Take advantage of that relationship and make meetings and events a priority in your schedule. Your connection to Victory Church will only help you grow in your leadership and in your walk with Christ.