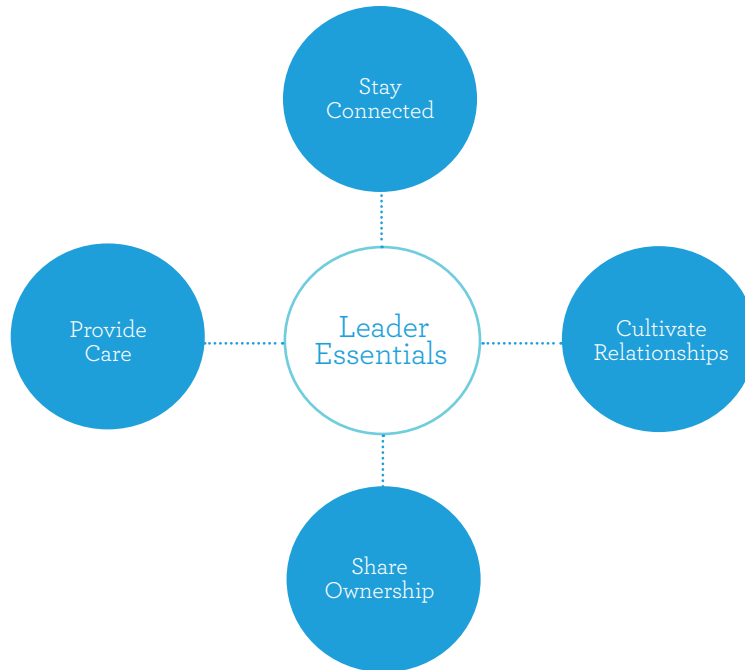


Tips for Leading Well

We have discovered four essentials for creating the optimum group environment for God to work in.

**Stay Connected.**

- This essential reminds us to stay spiritually nourished as we encourage spiritual growth in our group members.
- In John 15, Jesus uses the metaphor of a vine and branches to instruct his followers to “abide.” When we stay connected to Jesus in this way, we welcome God’s work in us and through us.
- *Are you first staying rooted in your relationship with Jesus, realizing that apart from him you can do nothing? How are you encouraging those in your group to stay connected to Jesus?*

Cultivate Relationships.

- This essential is focused on how we build community.
- By encouraging and facilitating connections outside of regular group meetings, you demonstrate the priority of relationships.
- *How are you and your group members connecting outside of group time?*

Share Ownership.

- This essential focuses on how you involve your group members.
- Shared participation (facilitating the study, hosting the meeting, preparing the snack, leading prayer time, planning socials, guiding the curriculum choice discussion, etc.) creates broader ownership of the group.
- *How are you involving your group members in supporting the group?*

Provide Care.

- This essential focuses on the big and small ways we can provide care for one another.
- People often don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.
- *Do you make it a priority for your group to support and care for one another?*