

## BUILDING A BIBLE STUDY

### Herding Cats / Leading A Challenging Class

1 Timothy 4:9-5:2

Colossians 4:5-6

1) How do you lead discussion in a **quiet group**?

- Direct questions to individuals by name
- Give people tasks to do – Draw them in through action
- Meet in smaller groups
- Don't assume they are not learning / listening

2) How do you take control back from someone who is **dominating** the conversation?

- Mentally disengage for a couple of seconds – evaluate if the disruption is damaging
- Ask yourself why the individual is dominating conversation?
- What is supposed to guide Bible study?
- Try to bring conversation back to the \_\_\_\_\_ and your \_\_\_\_\_.  
*"Is that what verse 11 says?"*
- You may need to approach them later and ask him to be mindful of the disruption.

3) How do you deal with someone in **theological error**?

- It is best not to dismiss their error / don't ignore the fact that they derailed the class.
  - For the benefit of the group the error has to be addressed.
- Try to gently correct their thinking with Scripture.
- If the individual cannot grasp the material you may have to redirect the discussion, and speak with him privately at a later time.

4) How do you lead discussion when some in the audience are **more mature** than you?

- Draw upon their wisdom / knowledge before you teach and while you teach.
- A truly mature person will always support your lesson graciously. They may not agree.

5) How do you lead the **misbehaving** and **disrespectful**?

- Keep rules and expectations clear.
- Make direct eye contact / place a hand on their shoulder
- Be painfully consistent / follow-thru exactly