

## Suggested Connection Agenda

1. AL's and CL's greet each person and determine which affinity they are looking for and establish a table for each affinity that is present. We will have table signs for **Couples+** by geographic area; **Singles** by age group, **Men**, **Women**, **Adults 60+**, **Family Small Groups** and **Workplace Groups**.
2. When you start. Welcome attendees to our Saddleback Connection Adventure and give them an overview how they will benefit from their involvement in a small group at Saddleback and then give them a thumbnail sketch of the connection agenda.
3. Round #1 Show them the handout and ask them to spend 10 minutes at their table getting to know each person at their table as they answer the Round #1 questions.
4. After 10 minutes give them a "one minute warning" and at 12-15 minutes, interrupt the discussion and ask them to move on to Round #2.
5. Round #2 Answer Round #2 questions. Again, give them 12-15 minutes to complete the questions.
6. Round #3 After they complete the Round #2 questions explain and use the Acts 6, "Bottom-up" method in identifying a Relative Leader and Co-Leader for their group (See Reverse for verses).
  - a. Before you ask them to pray silently to ask God who might be the best candidates, encourage them to think through two or three of the following questions:
    - i. Who is the relative Spiritual Leader in this group?
    - ii. If I had a spiritual need who would I be most comfortable to seek counsel from?
    - iii. Who seems to be the most mature, experienced and prepared member in our group?
    - iv. Who would I be willing to follow for a 6-8 weeks study?
    - v. Who appears to be the most humble, and have the most authentic walk with God?
7. Ask them to pray for a moment quietly alone and then close the time with a prayer yourself. Then on the count of three, have them point to the person they sense God has placed on their heart to lead this short-term group. Then ask several people to briefly explain to the person with the most people pointing to him/her why they pointed to them. Ask the group to agree on at least one leader and one co-leader.
8. Round #4 Have the groups decide when, where and what time their first meeting will be? Who will bring dessert? And fill out a NCR roster so that the leader and you have copies of the names and contact information of the group members. Mention that we will give them suggestions and materials for their first study together.
9. Have the groups close by sharing one prayer request and have one or more members pray for the requests and you close the whole meeting in prayer.
10. Ask the leaders and co-leaders to stay behind for a few minutes following your closing prayer.
  - a. Give them the Host Packet, which includes: Campaign Brochure with Host Tips and Schedule, Prayer Card, Invitations to Invite Others, Frequently Asked Questions. Additional "Helps for Hosts" begin on page 88 of 40 Days of Love Study Guide.
  - b. Answer any questions they may have.

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11. Close the time with a brief prayer of commissioning.

Two instances in Acts of believers choosing their Leaders. Note the criteria...in Acts 6:2 "full of the Spirit and Wisdom"

*Acts 6:1-6 In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. 2 So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said... "...Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them 4 and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." 5 This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. 6 They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.*

*Acts 1:21-26 Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, 22 beginning from John's baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection."*

*23 So they proposed two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias. 24 Then they prayed, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen 25 to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs." 26 Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles. NIV*