

Care Group **MINISTRY** Through the Sunday School

Keith Lowry - BGCT



Here's a shocker for you...

The adult SS Class enrollment list is **not** an Attendance list, it's a Ministry list.



This ministry is the natural outcome of having developed fellowship and relationships... it is the outpouring of love and blessings into the lives of others that naturally occurs when we become aware of their need and are filled with the Holy Spirit who leads us to minister in Christ's name. The awareness is developed through fellowship and relationship. (Often, I won't even SHARE my need, until I KNOW and TRUST you better...)

Ministry, properly performed, is a blessing to the minister, the one being ministered unto, and to the whole support system in the group. Everyone benefits when we get outside ourselves and give to another, (*prospect, new member, member, etc.*)

- ❑ Ministry breaks down barriers
- ❑ God tells us to: Mt 25:35-40 (*see the connections to Isaiah 58:4-7, and the promises that follow*)
- ❑ Jesus set the example: *woman at the well (John 4:7-15), man born blind (John 9, especially v. 37), feeding 5000 (John 6:25-35, esp. v. 35), raising Lazarus (John 11:1-44, especially vv. 25-26).*



What about us? One of the problems with targeted, directed ministry to members and prospects is often that we've not *organized* to do this very well.

ORGANIZE TO MINISTER

1. Care groups:

- a. Contact **Every** Member, **Every** Week!
 - *Could be a call, email, text, fb message, or a face-to-face contact, but here's the simple 3-part conversation:*
 - i. *"How are you doing?"*
 - ii. *"Is there anything I can pray with you about this week?"*
 - iii. *"Don't forget the class chili cook-off (or whatever...) next Saturday!"*



2. Why it works:



- a. Each CGL has a very small list. ***Only 3 to 5 people on each list***, so it doesn't take all day to make your contacts.
- b. You never say, ***"Why weren't you here this Sunday?"***
- c. Contact is brief, friendly, and encouraging. Just *building the relationship, letting them know you care...*
- d. CGL's rotate their lists every 3 months. ***Women CGL's call the women and men CGL's call the men. Don't let the ladies just call the ladies and assume that call counts for the couple. The men need a contact, too, or they'll drop out eventually.***
- e. A variety of contact ***methods*** are used. (*Calls, emails, Facebook, Starbucks visits, informal meal somewhere, etc.*)
- f. Training, testimonies, encouragement are provided for the CGL's.
- We *must* find a way to stay in contact with our class roll, whether everyone on it attends regularly or not. Remember, it's a ***ministry*** list!
- It's all about ***"RELATIONSHIPS"***. *"Getting to know you... getting to know all about you..."*

By Keith Lowry, BGCT Bible Study/Discipleship Team

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Care Group Leader Card, side A & B

Care Group Leader Member List - Class – MA3

A

1.	Robbie & Kim Evans	2002 1 st Street	rkevan@whocares.com	555-1213
2.	Jim & Becky Price	3115 Main	jbp@callme.org	555-1214
3.	Cathie Rohas	1212 Twelfth	rohas@careforme.com	555-5464
4.	Bill & Melissa Sharp	4567 8th Ave.	sharps@showyoucare.com	555-8888
5.	Kelly Turo	12 Country Club	Kelly@sos.com	555-9876
6.				

If you discover an urgent ministry need, please contact our ministry team leader - **Stan Hope**, at 555-1911, or the Associate team leader - **Frieda Care**, at 555-7777. They will work with you to coordinate emergency ministry needs.

If you discover ministry needs or prayer concerns that are *not* of an urgent nature, please be prepared to report the pertinent information the next Sunday during prayer requests. If you will be absent the next Sunday, please be sure this information gets to the teacher before Sunday. Thank you!

Mark 10:42-45 *"Whoever wishes to become great among you, shall be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be slave of all."*

Care Group Leader Contact Guide

B

Week 1 Postcard, text, Facebook, Twitter, or *some* initial contact.

Week 2 Call

Week 3 Email

Week 4 Call and invite to class-wide fellowship

Week 5 Visit (*Brief, drop by visit to bring new literature, etc., once a quarter. This could be a quick visit arranged as a dinner, a quick visit at Starbucks, a group fellowship w/your whole CG, or it could be a drop-by visit at their home. But in some way, arrange to see them face-to-face away from the church at least once a quarter.*)

After one quarter, switch cards with another CGL. Allows us to build *more* relationships.

In these contacts, the goal is to maintain contact without creating a sense of guilt about not attending. Never "Where were you?" or "Are you ever coming back?"

These are the basics of the contact:

1. "How are you doing?"
2. "Is there anything we can pray with you about this week?" (*If there's a ministry need, you'll discover it here.*)
3. "Don't forget the upcoming..." (*party, fellowship, revival, high attendance day, etc.*)
That's it!



Other suggestions for the weekly contact: *"This is your weekly prayer update phone call (or email – whatever). Just checkin' in. How are you doin'? Anything I can add to our prayer list for you this week? Be sure and let me know if anything comes up, and thank you for keeping me in the loop. Don't forget the skeet-shoot & cookout for fathers & sons this weekend! I'll be in touch next week."*

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