

Session One: Getting Started

Key Teaching Points

- Connect3 Teams function to connect workplace leaders with God, with one another, and with the cause of the gospel
- Form follows function
- Pray for God to raise up the right members to join your team
- Recruit to the CBMC Mission, Core Values, and Vision
- Gather the team to get alignment with purpose
- Equip the team to pray using the 10 Most Wanted Card
- Equip the team in the principles of teamwork
- Equip the team in the principles of evangelism as a lifestyle
- Equip the team in the principles of discipleship as a lifestyle

I. Definition of a Connect3 Team

page 6 7 minutes

Opening Question:

Based on your reading in preparation for this session, or by looking at the diagram how would you define or describe the phrase Connect3?

Emphasize:

The Connect3 Team serves to connect team members with the vision, mission and values of CBMC as it connects them to God, to one another, and to the cause of bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ into the marketplace. That is our purpose.

Emphasize:

The Connect3 Team is not a Bible study, nor a Prayer meeting, nor a Fellowship gathering...though we highly value all three and include all three in our team meetings. We don't define our meeting by our activities. Rather, we define our team meeting by our purpose.

Refer to the diagram as a three legged stool and as the question:

What happens when one of the legs is missing or out of balance?

(it doesn't function the way it was intended)

What happens to the team if God is missing?

What happens to the team if One Another is missing?

What happens to the team if The Cause of the Gospel is missing?

Form Follows Function

page 6-7 3 minutes

Ask if there is a participant with a background in engineering, product development, or architecture who can explain the concept of Form Follows Function.

Refer to our periodic updates of Operation Timothy as a good example of form following function.

The function is life-on-life discipleship. The form is the Operation Timothy material we use in service of the function.

The form has changed over the years while the function remains the same...life-on-life discipleship.

Describe some of the changes in the form over the years. Note that the next change in form is now being developed...eOT.

Emphasize:

The same concept is true with our teams. The while the form may change the function remains the same... connect workplace leaders with God, with one another, and with the cause of the gospel. That is why we are now using the term Connect3 Team to describe our weekly team.

Connect3 teams and Marketplace Ambassadors

page 6 3 minutes

Reference the growing use of the term Marketplace Ambassador throughout CBMC.

The term builds on Paul's description of all believers in 2 Corinthians 5:20. Paul says we are Ambassadors... The real question is how effective are you?

The word cloud lists many of the characteristics of an effective Marketplace Ambassador.

Question:

What do you see in this picture?

Reflection Question:

How do these terms describe you?

Emphasize:

Our desire is to see each CBMC participant grow in their effectiveness as a Marketplace Ambassador and assist them by providing the tools and resources to see that become a reality.

II. Establishing a Connect3 Team

page 8-10

Step 1 Pray for God to raise up the right members to join your Connect3 Team **pg 8 5 min.**

Ask someone to read Step 1 from the top of page and Luke 6:12-13 from the margin.

Question:

What do you see Jesus doing in these verses?

What do you think God was doing in these verses?

What is the significance for those establishing or re-establishing a Connect3 team?

Exercise:

Take a few moments to list a few names of potential team members in each box. Pray for God to provide the right people...right now.

Step 2 Recruit to the CBMC Mission, Core Values, and Vision **pg 9 8 minutes**

Ask someone to read Step 2 from the top of page.

Question:

What is the difference between recruiting to the vision, mission, and values as opposed to recruiting to a meeting or a group?

What is the value of recruiting to the vision, mission and values?

Ask someone to read the mission statement then ask the question:

What are you recruiting to when you recruit to this mission?

Ask someone to read the core values and then ask the question:

What are you recruiting to when you recruit to these core values?

Ask someone to read the vision and then ask the question:

What are you recruiting to when you recruit to this vision?

Emphasize:

Meaningful engagement in the work of the team is a result of awareness and understanding of the mission, core values, and vision of the Connect3 Team.

Step 3 Gather the Connect3 team to get alignment with purpose **pg 10 5 minutes**

Ask someone to read Step 3 from the top of the page and the 3 content paragraphs.

Question:

What is the significance of having a clear, compelling purpose for your team?

Ask someone to read Matt 4:18-20 from the margin.

Question:

What was Jesus purpose as laid out in these verses?

How did Simon and Andrew respond?

Emphasize:

Embracing the vision, mission, and values of the team leads to personal sacrifice and participating with a sense of immediacy or urgency.

III. Equipping the Team for Maximum Ministry Impact **pg 11-15**

Opening Question: **2 minutes**

What do all sports teams do when they gather prior to the start of their official schedule?

What do all military units do when they gather for the first time prior to any deployment?

Why do they both go through all the work?

Emphasize:

Equipping the team for maximum ministry impact is like preparing a sports team to play the game, or a military unit to engage the enemy. You always prepare in advance. You always have a game plan or a strategy for success. What we are now going to review could become your game plan for the next year. As a matter of fact, If you take the time over the next year to do what we are suggesting your team will be equipped and ready for maximum ministry impact.

Step 1 Equip the team to pray using the 10 Most Wanted Card **pg 11 5 minutes**

Ask someone to read Step 1 from the top of the page.

Emphasize:

The 10 Most Wanted Card facilitates a prayerful focus on the mission and vision. It brings us into alignment with God's desire for our unconvinced friends, family, and associates. Individuals who use the 10 Most Wanted card tend to see more results. Teams who use the card tend to see more results.

Share a personal story of God answering prayers based on the use of the 10 Most Wanted Card.

Ask for any others to share a similar story.

When leading others to fill out a card draw attention to the connect3 tips from the bottom of the page.

Encourage daily use during individual devotional time and then use the card each time the team meets together. We will discuss how to use it most effectively as a team next week.

The card also provides an opportunity to re-cast vision, mission, and core values. Share an example of how this has been done.

Step 2 Equip the team in the principles of teamwork **pg 12 5 minutes**

Open this section by saying:

Your Connect3 Team will function best when it becomes an interdependent community where each member is connected to Christ, connected to each other, and connected to the cause of bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ into the marketplace.

Ask someone to read the six principles to more fruitful teamwork.

Question:

Which principle jumps out at you...and why?

Learning how to function well as a team is an intentional process. We've prepared a team study to help your team become an effective reproducing team. It's available on the Connected Community in the Team Library. It is a vital part of the equipping process. Take time to master the principles.

The Building Powerful Team workshop is for Area Leadership Teams and best done as a retreat.

Step3 Equip the team in the principles of evangelism as a lifestyle **pg 13-14 5 min**

Ask someone to read Step 3 from the top of the page and the 4 content paragraphs.

Question:

What do you think keeps most Christians away from the whole idea of evangelism?

Emphasize:

Taking time as a team to learn how the principles of evangelism as a lifestyle can be effectively applied to everyday life is critical to the team vision and mission.

Draw attention to the Spiritual Awareness Chart and do a quick review of how to use it in conjunction with the 10 Most Wanted Card.

The team should take the time to study and apply the book Workplace Grace by Bill Peel and Walt Larimore. It is the best book out there on how the principles of Lifestyle Evangelism can be applied in the work environment. It is available on Amazon.

CBMC has prepared a study guide to accompany the use of the book. It is available in the Evangelism Library of the CBMC Connected Community.

Refer to Living Proof and mention the upcoming release of the New Living Proof.

Step 4 Equip the team in the principles of discipleship as a lifestyle **pg 15 5 min**

Ask someone to read Step 4 from the top of the page and the 3 content paragraphs.

What do you think keeps most Christians away from the whole idea of discipleship?

Emphasize:

Taking time as a team to learn how the principles of discipleship as a lifestyle can be effectively applied to everyday life is critical to the team vision and mission.

Jim Petersen's book Lifestyle Discipleship is the flagship book on the topic. Every new team and every re-focusing team needs to take the time to work through this book. A discussion guide is included in the book. The book is available at Amazon

Building Spiritual Reproducers is a CBMC designed workshop that will develop a discipleship culture within your team. We like to recommend it be done in a retreat setting.

Question:

What are some of the benefits of getting away for a retreat in conjunction with a BSR workshop?

Close pg 16 2 minutes

Draw attention to the summary points, reflection questions, and action steps on page 16.

Mention that they will receive these questions in an email from the CBMC Field Support office in the next few days. Encourage them to complete and return.

A meeting reminder will be sent later in the week for the next session.

Thank them for participating and close in prayer.

Session Two: The Leader and the Connect3 Team

Key Teaching Points

- Leading a Connect3 Team is a large responsibility.
- Four critical roles of the Connect3 leader are servant, shepherd, overseer, and equipper
- The Connect3 team meeting is a safe place to develop community, character, and competence
- Key ingredients are authentic relationships, focused prayer using the 10 Most Wanted Card, and relevant study/discussion time
- Reproduction of new leaders and new teams is a natural result of the CBMC process

Session One Feedback

5 minutes

Following welcome and opening prayer ask for feedback from session one.

Question:

What were some significant take-aways for you from last week?

I. Four Critical Roles of the Connect3 Leader pg 18-19

15 minutes

Emphasize:

While there are many roles of an effective leader, we have chosen what we believe to be four essential or critical roles of leadership. Highlight the fact that leaders model the way.

For each of the four roles ask someone to read the associated verse, or be prepared to read it yourself.

Questions for each role:

What are some characteristics of a...?

What could that look like as you lead a team?

Be prepared to share a brief example of how you have seen these lived out in teams you are involved with.

Close section by asking someone to read the Intro to Philippians highlighting again that leaders model the way.

II. Conducting your Connect3 Team Meeting pg 20

Ask someone to read the description in the margin and make a few observations from your own experience that relate to the concept.

Question:

5 minutes

How do you react to the idea of viewing the team as a mash unit?

A. Team Meeting Location

pg 20 5 minutes

Ask someone to read the paragraph.

Emphasize:

Where, When, How often and length of meeting should be determined by the purpose and the members...refer back to the Form and Function discussion from session one.

Question:

What do you see as being some of the important factors for your team in selecting a time and location?

B. Sample Meeting Agenda

pg 21 15 minutes

Emphasize:

Just like our 3 legged stool discussion from session one, the importance of balancing the three agenda items of an effective meeting agenda can't be overstressed. All are vital for an effective Connect3 Team experience.

Have someone read the four bullet points associated with Fellowship/Community Time.

Question:

How does strategic use of this time contribute to our goal of connecting men to one another?

How does this approach differ from what you may be experiencing with your team currently?

Have someone read the four bullet points associated with Prayer time.

Emphasize:

Prayer for the unconvinced, for more laborers, and for each other should be the focus of the prayer time. This is one of the most critical aspects of our ministry. We should not get distracted by praying for other good but unrelated things. Individuals who pray using the 10 Most Wanted card see more fruit. Teams who pray using the 10Most Wanted card see more fruit.

You might share from your own experience the value but struggle in keeping guys focused on praying for the things that are related to our mission and vision.

Question:

How does praying using the 10 Most Wanted card contribute to our goal of connecting men to God?

What is the value of pairing up and exchanging cards for prayer?

What is the significance in discussing personal actions being taken to move them One Step Closer? Refer to the Spiritual Awareness Chart from session one.

Emphasize:

The Team Study/Discussion time is where we spend time gaining the heart and skills involved in being engaged in the mission. It is equipping time focused on the mission. It is where we plug in the tools we discussed last week such as Workplace Grace, Lifestyle Discipleship, etc.

Ask someone to read the four bullet points.

Question:

How do these contribute to our goal of connecting men to The Cause of the Gospel?

How does this differ from a more traditional Bible study?

Mention the importance of having a plan to welcome guests. No second chance for a first impression.

Open it up for questions and discussion on the meeting agenda. Share best practices and ask good coaching questions to go deeper when appropriate. **5 minutes**

III. Maximum Ministry Impact

pg 22 5 minutes

Ask someone to read the paragraph

Question:

This is a simple but profound strategy for maximizing ministry impact. What do you see as the key ingredients in the process?

- people are coming to Christ and being discipled
- team members are intentional about praying for new leaders and teams
- God raises up men with a vision for new teams
- Leaders are "sent out" meaning established, equipped, mobilized, supported etc.

Emphasize:

Vision for multiplying new teams by developing new leaders needs to be cast early and often. Small group theory tells us that if multiplication does not happen within the first couple of years it will never happen...The DNA of the group becomes set and is focused either inward or outward. Vision...Leadership...

The Big Picture

pg 22 3 minutes

Mention the global nature of CBMC and the opportunity to get connected with another team in another country.

Close

Draw attention to the summary points, reflection questions, and action steps on page 23

Mention that they will receive these questions in an email from the CBMC Field Support office in the next few days. Encourage them to complete and return.

A meeting reminder will be sent later in the week for the next session.

Thank them for participating and close in prayer.

Session Three: The Leader's Life

Key Teaching Points

- God calls the leader into a love relationship with himself
- All Christians are called to give themselves to the cause of the gospel
- All Christians have an individual calling that utilizes passions, gifts, and circumstances
- Leaders develop an intimate connection with God
- Leaders consistently connect with God's purposes
- Leaders develop their leadership capacity by connecting with the CBMC Legacy Leadership Initiative

Session Two Feedback

5 minutes

Following welcome and opening prayer ask for feedback from session two.

Question:

What were some significant take-aways for you from last week?

Introduce this session by saying something like this:

The last two weeks we looked at the team...today we want to focus on a much more personal topic...you...the leader and how God Calls and Prepares the leader and how CBMC comes along side to assist the process.

I. The Call of the Leader

pg 25 5 minutes

Ask someone to read the opening paragraph.

Referencing the last sentence of paragraph ask:

Question:

What makes understanding calling such a critical component to spiritual leadership?

A. Relational Calling

10 minutes

Ask someone to read the 4 statements related to relational calling.

Use your own words to add a little meat to each one.

Question:

What are some of the spiritual disciplines that God has used in your life to develop your love relationship with Him?

Ask someone to read the Chambers quote from the margin.

Question:

What are a few of the main things you hear in this quote?

Share your own observations. I focus on the competitor of devotion sentence with my own paraphrase: "I can be so busy serving the King that I fail to take enough time sitting at the feet of the King."

B. Universal Calling

pg. 26 5 minutes

Ask someone to read the 2 statements related to Universal Calling.

Ask someone to read the 2 passages from Matthew in the margin.

Question:

If Universal calling means all Christians are called to be engaged in evangelism and discipleship (God's purposes) what do you think accounts for the fact that most Christians are not involved in the process?

C. Individual Calling

5 minutes

Ask someone to read the 3 statements related to Individual Calling.

Use your own words to add a little meat to each one.

Ask someone to read the Jim Petersen quote from the margin to close out the discussion on calling.

II. The Preparation of the Leader

pg 27

A. Leaders Develop an Intimate Connection with God

10 minutes

Read the 3 statements. Don't take time for the subpoints.

Emphasize:

These 3 areas of God at work are generally sequential. God works on...then in...then through the leader. We experience brokenness which leads to "death" to self. Then Christ gives us his indwelling life as a replacement. We use the term Christ-life as opposed to Christ-like because anyone can be Christ-like. Gandhi was Christ-like.

Question:

How has God used brokenness in your own life as a way of developing an intimate connection with Him? Who would be willing to share?

Be prepared to share something from your own life.

Refer to John 15:5 in the margin. Share a few thoughts as it relates to #3, God working through the leader.

B. Leaders Consistently Connect with God's Purposes 2 minutes

No need to spend much time on this as it was discussed in previous section. Do highlight that God's purposes are central to all we do as leaders. We are in alignment with His purposes to the extent we are connected to Him.

Ask someone to read the Experiencing God quote as a way to close the section.

C. Leaders Connect with the LLI Process pg 28 10 minutes

Emphasize:

We've been discussing how God develops us as leaders and now we will take a helicopter view of how CBMC comes along side you with a defined leadership development process.

The best way to walk through this section would be to give a brief description of each one or summary from the text and then share your own personal experience with each one and how it has impacted your life and leadership.

The Fruit (ends) of Realizing God's Vision for CBMC pg 32-34 3 minutes

This is the way the board assesses the effectiveness of the ministry. It should be how individual teams and cities assess themselves. Ministry Action Plans should address them. Each team should periodically ask themselves "How are we doing in regard to these ends?"

Close:

5 minutes

Draw attention to the rest of the manual, highlighting the resource section for materials and the 3 Field Operation Specialists for help with navigating the CBMC organization. Jackie Williams East; Pam Hough Central; and Maria Miller West.

Having successfully completed all 3 sessions, participants are now qualified and recognized as Connect3 Team Leaders.

Pam Hough will be sending a certification along with instructions on how to register the team as an official CBMC Connect3 Team.

Congratulate them and offer a prayer of blessing as you close.