



BLOCK PARTY LEADERSHIP GUIDE

"LET EACH OF YOU LOOK NOT ONLY TO HIS
OWN INTERESTS, BUT ALSO TO THE
INTERESTS OF OTHERS."

PHILIPPIANS 2:4

BLOCK PARTY 101

BLOCK PARTY CAN BE AN EFFECTIVE, NON-THREATENING WAY TO SEE YOUR NEIGHBORS OPEN UP TO CHURCH

WE BELIEVE LIFE CHANGE HAPPENS IN THE CONTEXT OF RELATIONSHIPS.

MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS CAN BE HARD TO FIND, AND A BLOCK PARTY EXISTS TO HELP CHANGE RELATIONSHIPS RELEVANT AND ACCESSIBLE TO WHERE YOU LIVE.

AT FIRST CHURCH, WE BELIEVE OUR CHURCH MUST GROW **LARGER** AND **SMALLER** AT THE SAME TIME.

OUR BLOCK PARTY MODEL

- 1** **A TIME TO CONNECT | 1 CORINTHIANS 9:22**
WE WERE NOT MADE TO DO LIFE ALONE. GOD CREATED US FOR COMMUNITY

- 2** **A TIME TO PROTECT | 1 JOHN 3:16**
IT IS THROUGH LIFE TOGETHER THAT OUR PROBLEMS BECOME SMALLER, AND GOD USES OTHERS TO BRING SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT

- 3** **A TIME TO GROW | PROVERBS 27:17**
WE BELIEVE EVERY PERSON IS CREATED WITH GOD-GIVEN POTENTIAL TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD. BECOME MORE LIKE JESUS ONE BLOCK AT A TIME!

YOUR ROLE AS A LEADER

KEYS TO A LEADER

COMMUNICATE

TALK WITH OTHER LEADERS ABOUT YOUR BLOCK PARTY. BE SURE TO HAVE CLEAR COMMUNICATION WITH YOUR GROUP EACH TIME YOU MEET. EACH PERSON HAS A PARTS TO PLAY IN MAKING THE BLOCK PARTY SUCCESSFUL.

EQUIP THEM

THE PRIMARY ROLE OF A BLOCK PARTY LEADER IS TO HELP GROUP MEMBERS MOVE ONE STEP IN THEIR WALK WITH GOD. HELP THEM TO FIND THEIR ROLE IN THE BLOCK PARTY AND TO SEE THEIR POTENTIAL.

PREP, PREP...and then PREP

AVOID FEELING UNPREPARED BY PREPARING WELL. PRAY AND WRITE DOWN YOUR THOUGHTS OF WHAT YOU WANT TO ACCOMPLISH. DON'T RUSH YOURSELF OR WAIT UNTIL THE NIGHT BEFORE TO START PREPARING.

PROVIDE GUIDANCE

PEOPLE IN YOUR GROUP WILL NEED GUIDANCE. YOU WILL NEED TO GUIDE PEOPLE TO DO WHAT THEIR STRENGTH OR TALENT IS FOR THE BLOCK PARTY.

IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER: HOW TO PRAY

- PRAY FOR ANY REQUESTS GROUP MEMBERS SHARE
- ASK FOR THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN YOUR BLOCK PARTY
- PRAY THAT GOD WILL OPEN PEOPLE'S HEARTS AND FOR AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY TO DEVELOP

PRAYER IS A **FOUNDATION** OF OUR CHURCH, AND
FOR YOUR BLOCK PARTY AND COMMUNITY!

2 CHRONICLES 7:14

THE 5 P'S OF BLOCK PARTY

PRAYER

PRAYER SHOULD BE THE PREFACE TO ANY EVENT. A BLOCK PARTY IS NO DIFFERENT. PRAY WHERE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD TO HAVE THE BLOCK PARTY. PRAY FOR THE NEIGHBORS THAT ARE GOING TO COME.

PLANNING

FAIL TO PLAN, PLAN TO FAIL. YOU HAVE TO PLAN FOR A BLOCK PARTY. HOW MANY PEOPLE DO YOU THINK YOU CAN REACH? HOW ARE GOING TO CONTACT? WHAT ARE YOUR NEEDS?

PROMOTION

THIS IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS PRAYER AND PLANNING. THE KEY IS TO FIND A VISIBLE AREA TO PLACE A BANNER 1 WEEK BEFORE (WITH PERMISSION HOA). CREATE AND PASS OUT FLYERS. USE FACEBOOK/ INSTAGRAM/NEXT DOOR/NEWSLETTER. "FREE" IS THE KEY WORD TO ALL PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL.

PRESENTATION

MAKE YOUR BLOCK PARTY LOOK EXCITING AND WELCOMING. DO NOT USE BARRIER TAPE TO MARK OFF YOUR BOUNDARIES, ITS JUST THAT, A BARRIER. PRESENTATION IS AN IMPORTANT INGREDIENT FOR PEOPLE TO REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE AND WHAT YOU MEAN TO THEM ONCE THE EVENT IS OVER. BE READY TO ADJUST TO THE UNKNOWN.

PURSUE

ONE OF THE MAIN OBJECTIVES IN OUR BLOCK PARTY IS TO RECEIVE AND RETAIN A GOOD FOLLOW UP LIST. WE MUST PURSUE THOSE WHO ARE UN-CHURCHED AND THOSE LOOKING FOR A HOME CHURCH. WE NEED TO PURSUE.

PREPARATION

KEYS TO REMEMBER

- 1 IDEA**
Pray about block party. Decide on location.
Recruit volunteers
- 2 ORGANIZE**
Decide how to lay out your block party. Organize your volunteers. Rent any equipment. Decide what food. Make promotional materials.
- 3 PROMOTE**
Begin promoting your block party. Start passing out flyers. Put yard signs out. Social media postings.
- 4 IMPLEMENT**
People are buying and getting food/drinks. Confirm delivery/pick up for rent items.
- 5 BLOCK PARTY**
Begin with prayer before preparation begins. Set up the area. Prepare food/drinks. Start on time. Make sure people register and get a count.
- 6 AFTERBLOCK PARTY**
Clean up the area. No trash left. Evaluate the block party. Make sure to follow up. Turn in contacts to Small Group Admin.

NEED TO KNOW

TENTS

Use tents for registration, face painting, sound, food area.

TABLES/CHAIRS

Need table and chairs for people to sit and eat.
Tables for food setup.

FOOD SUPPLIES

Plates, cups, napkins, etc...
Supplies for popcorn, snow cone, cotton candy machines

GAS

Check gas and have plenty of gas for the generator(s)

SETUP

- Setup best for your location. 1 way in, 1 way out
- Grilling area should be away from all activities
- Popcorn, cotton candy, & snow cone machines can go in the "Food" area.
- Registration needs to be at the entrance. Signs showing "Registration".

ELECTRICAL

Popcorn machine needs to be separate electrical cord. (2) inflatable bouncers on same electrical cord. Sound, snow cone and cotton candy can be on a 3-way cord together.

SUPPORT

You are never alone in creating community. We have pastors and staff who are all working alongside you to invest in great Small Groups at First Church.

EXAMPLE OF BLOCK PARTY SETUP

