

Group Dynamics Roles

Print out and cut this page to give the volunteers their roles.

Teacher

Since you will not have prepared a real lesson, choose a topic or Scripture that is familiar to you. You start the class and keep the conversation going. You will monitor the class dynamics to ensure that those who want to participate can do so and that those who derail the group somehow are contained (as politely as possible). You should be sensitive to the 'teachable moment' and open to the input and creativity of the group members.

Hyperactive

You're having a hard time sitting still and constraining yourself. You can doodle or fidget or get up-- something that indicates you have trouble focusing for very long. This is a simulation, so be realistic, but don't be obnoxious! ;-)

Shy

You can decide when and if to participate. Your shyness may be sufficient reason to just listen, but you should attempt to participate actively at least once.

Frequent Talker

You LOVE to hear yourself talk, even if you aren't really saying anything. If the teacher attempts to contain you, you should listen, or at least appear to listen, for a while.

Bunny Trail

You apparently have an interest in the side issues that can come up in a discussion. You're not all that keyed in to the main subject but are more than ready to go off on some tangent. You may be the one in the group who has some urgent need, secondary to the lesson, which becomes an occasion for the teachable moment.

Focuser

You are the one who likes to keep on track. If the discussion derails, you will find a way to focus on the main thing, including something that comes up that wasn't the main thing to begin with, but seems to need to be.

Synthesizer

You like to bring all the threads of the discussion into some sort of order, if you can. That might mean listening until you are ready to bring the main points together, though you are free to participate at will.

