

Finding Your Triad

When you're starting a Q Place group, don't do it alone! Find at least one other Christian to pray, plan, and launch your group with you. Even better, team up with two other followers of Jesus, and together you will be a triad—the strongest nucleus for your new group. Want to know why that's ideal and how you can find your triad? Read on!

WHY START WITH A TRIAD?

STRONG CORE

A triad is the perfect size to be both transparent and mutually accountable. When your triad is transparent, accountable, and immersed in Scripture for transformation, you have a community that is perfect for spiritual growth.

DYNAMIC MODEL FOR DISCUSSIONS

Compare the interchange of three people in conversation versus a two-person dialogue or a monologue. When three people prepare to start a group together, they get experience in the kind of interaction that sets the stage for lively discussions.

MUTUAL SUPPORT

With your mixture of gifts, skills, and personalities, you will balance each other's strengths and weaknesses as you walk alongside people who believe differently. In the group, you will be more able to ensure that everyone is respected, valued, and heard as they share their thoughts and grow in their understanding of God.

SPIRITUAL VICTORY

As you discuss life, God, and the Bible with people who have not come to know Jesus, there is a spiritual enemy who will want to defeat and conquer you. Ecclesiastes 4:12 states, "A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken."

When you pray and seek God's direction through the ups and downs of your group, you can encourage, affirm, and be vigilant for each other.

PRACTICAL LOGISTICS

There will be times when one of you cannot attend the meeting, but with three facilitators, at least two of you will still be there in the discussion.

FRIENDS TO INVITE

In a Q Place group it's ideal for participants to outnumber the facilitators so the participants feel safe to be open about their questions. When you start with a triad, each of you will know some people to invite so you will have a larger pool of participants.

DECISIONS

When your group gets started you will find great comfort and adventure in listening together for God's leading rather than bearing the weight of trying to discern God's guidance on your own.

MULTIPLICATION

A triad is a strong structure for multiplying your group. As your group grows, and when people in your group come to know Jesus, one or two of you can invite a new believer to become part of a new triad—and launch a new group!

Read more about why and how triads work in *Practicing the 9 Arts of Spiritual Conversations: Complete Guide* (The Art of Facilitating 7.2: How Can We Lead with Three?), available from Q Place.

HOW CAN I FIND A TRIAD?

ESSENTIAL QUALITIES

Pray and look for Christians who are seeking to love God and love people. The following acronym, FAITH, highlights essential facilitator qualities, so ask yourself if individuals that you are considering are:

Faithful. Do they follow through with what they promise to do?

Available. Will they make time for your triad and for your group?

Inspired. Do they have a growing, listening relationship with Jesus?

Teachable. Do they have a learner's spirit and openness to the Q Place approach?

Humble. Will they serve with an attentive, sensitive heart?

WHERE TO LOOK

Think about where God is leading you to start a Q Place group. (Your workplace? Your neighborhood? Your YMCA or fitness center?) Pray for God to guide you to Christians who would be a natural fit for starting a group in that area.

If you don't know the location, then pray for a triad that will help you with that question—and keep your eyes open! Here are some ideas that may help you in the search for a triad:

- Talk to your pastor or other church leaders about this idea and ask if they know someone who might be interested in learning how to start a Q Place group with you.
- If your church has gone through Q Place's 9 Arts curriculum, then talk with individuals who have been practicing those skills and let them know you are looking for triad members to join you in starting a group for spiritual seekers.
- Ask a Christian neighbor, coworker, or friend to be in your triad.

Once you think you have found someone, be sure to ask the person directly and personally. When you find a few Christians who are interested in understanding more, then get together and discuss what starting a Q Place looks like. During that time you could watch one or more of the videos describing a Q Place (available at QPlace.com).

I HAVE A TRIAD! WHAT'S NEXT?

With your triad, join a Q Place coaching group. The first session is an orientation to Q Place Coaching. After that, the group will go through the book *How to Start a Q Place*, with supplemental resources and practice that will help you understand the essence of a Q Place group and learn how to facilitate vibrant discussions. The coaches are experienced Q Place facilitators.

For people who live outside of areas with in-person groups, we have coaching groups by video conference call. To sign up for the next round, go to QPlace.com/coaching.