

6 Ways to Develop Safety in Your Small Group

1

Growth More Than Comfort
Groups do whatever it takes to help a person grow. A safe person is someone who influences you to be more of whom God intended you to be.

2

Grace
Grace, being “for” each other as God is for us, is the foundation of safety in a small group. There is no room in grace for shame, guilt, or judgment.

3

Structure
When people know there is an order and structure to the group, they are less afraid of the unpredictable, either in themselves or in others.

4

Time
Safety is not an immediate thing. It takes time to create, and it takes time for people to test out. Allow people time to learn it and ultimately trust the group.

5

Your Example
In your role as facilitator, you not only provide guidance about safety, but also take risks yourself, so the group can see how safe the setting really is.

6

Commonality
The universality of experience is a powerful part of creating a safe group. When people open up, they find others have had similar struggles and don't feel alone.