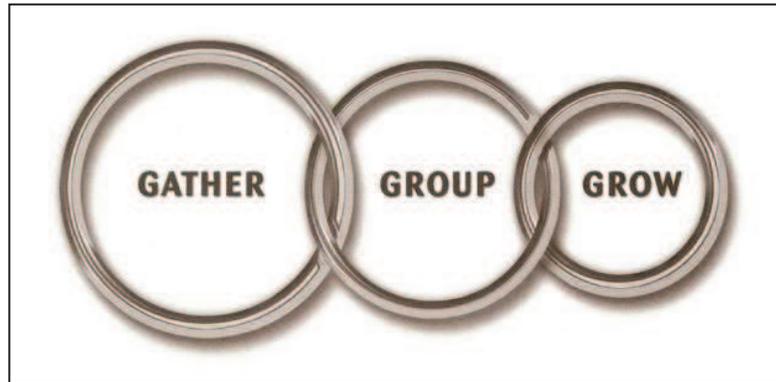


Gather/Group/Grow Strategy

The “3-G” strategy is a simple, logical plan for gathering men and boys together, grouping them, and growing them through an ongoing commitment. This strategy helps turn men from outsiders to insiders, involving them in church-wide, family-based events; in short-term commitments to a project or study with their children; then finally as regular mentors for a group of boys.



Gathering events are designed to draw a crowd. When planning gathering event, think fun. Church-wide RA Racer competitions, father-son/family picnics or dinners, camping trips, and fishing adventures all make great crowd-pleasers. These events give men and boys a place to belong, and offer them the opportunity to take their interest to the next level – short term groups.

When planning such an event, keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Select a leader to organize the event and be the central contact.
- Establish a clear budget and stay within the budget.
- Understand the purpose of the event, and don't let the event lose focus during planning.
- Give yourself plenty of time to plan and promote the event. Begin promoting the event at least two months out and continue to promote this event each week at the church.
- Conduct an event on the date scheduled. (Don't cancel due to weather - modify the event. Have a rainy day plan and schedule an alternate date for the event if necessary.)
- During the event, offer an invitation to the next level of commitment.

Having an event just for the sake of having an event won't help you grow an organization of committed men and boys. Use your events as opportunities to invite men and boys into a deeper commitment. After the event meet with other leaders to evaluate how the event was conducted.

Grouping activities provide interaction between Royal Ambassadors, Challengers and Baptist Men on Mission. With any grouping activity remember to select one leader to be the primary contact. This man doesn't have to do all the work, but he needs to know what is going on and who is doing it. Stay in regular communication with him. The main thing to remember with any grouping activity is to offer an invitation to participate in the next level. There are several types of grouping activities available for Royal Ambassadors, including, but not limited to: sports, mission projects, and special interest focus groups (archery, riflery, hiking, etc.) *Sons of Virtue* is a ready-made, easy-to-use, 10-week study that is designed for small, in-home groups that introduces boys and their fathers to the biblical virtues associated with the RA Pledge.

Growing takes place as boys and their leaders participate weekly in Royal Ambassadors and are encouraged make ongoing commitments and to live out the words of the Royal Ambassadors Motto and Pledge. RAs provide an opportunity for boys to develop biblical character in addition to growing spiritually, physically, mentally, and in relationships with others.