

to return every few months to the Service Session Topic in our Sessions Book, and consider service in the context of spiritual growth and the life of community. And, sooner or later most groups will take on a small project. And, not surprisingly, the experience is usually good and a small project leads on to other, more ambitious contributions.

As Small Group Ministry has spread through our movement, one of my disappointments has been that too often planners choose or congregations opt not to include service in their model. I think those programs miss an important avenue for building strong groups, and that in doing so we sell ourselves short. I believe that we need to take our own spiritual lives seriously, and that we need to be forthright about the spiritual truths we know. A deepening spiritual life is a life of