LEADER TRAINING VIDEO OUTLINE & DISCUSSION GUIDE

HOW TO USE THE LEADER TRAINING VIDEO
The Leader Training Video is designed to stimulate interactivity and discussion within the GriefShare leadership team.

The Leader Training Video is located on Disc 5 in your GriefShare kit. There are four individual segments. We’ve designed the format so that you’ll view a segment, then use the discussion questions to help your group apply the concepts presented on that segment. You can use the videos in one of two formats:

1. Schedule four separate team meetings, viewing one video segment per meeting, followed by discussion and planning.

2. Plan a longer training session (such as a Saturday morning), and go through all of the material in a single session. If you elect this option, be sure to include time for discussion/planning after the viewing of each video.

Whichever format you choose, reserve time to pray for your ministry, for the future participants, and for your leadership team.

Running times:

PART 1 – 10 minutes

PART 2 – 14 minutes

PART 3 – 10 minutes

PART 4 – 22 minutes

Leader’s Guide

The information in your Leader’s Guide is the foundation for a successful ministry. Even if you are a seasoned and experienced leader, ignoring it will limit your effectiveness. The Leader’s Guide provides ideas and suggestions specific to the GriefShare ministry.
LEADER TRAINING VIDEO OUTLINE

Use these pages to take notes while viewing the GriefShare Leader Training Video. You may reproduce a copy for each member of your leader team or download from the LeaderZone Library.

PART 1: WHAT IS GRIEFSHARE?

Video-based support group __________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

Essential components _______________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

An ER (emergency room) ministry ___________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

A powerful outreach tool ___________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

PART 2: THE EIGHT SUCCESS TIPS

Success Tip #1 – Build a team _________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

Success Tip #2 – Read the GriefShare Leader’s Guide ___________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

Success Tip #3 – Watch the Leader Training Video ______________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

Success Tip #4 – Sign up for the LeaderZone __________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
Success Tip #5 – Provide workbooks

Success Tip #6 – Use the online Find a Group

Success Tip #7 – Connect with a GriefShare consultant

Success Tip #8 – Pray

PART 3: KEY INFORMATION FOR YOUR GROUP

Let members know they are welcome

Communicate how GriefShare works

Encourage participants/group members to:

Attend at least three sessions

Complete their “From Mourning to Joy”

Follow group guidelines

Look for similarities
PART 4: LEADING YOUR GROUP WELL

You're a facilitator, not a teacher

How to deal with difficult people

What if someone won't stop talking?

Go over group guidelines

Direct questions to others

Don’t be afraid to interrupt

Speak with them privately

How to deal with difficult situations

What if no one talks?

What about quiet participants?

Talk to them privately

What if someone is inconsolable?
What do I do with suicidal participants?

Check the LeaderZone & Leader’s Guide

Be prepared

What if I don’t know the answer?
LEADER TRAINING VIDEO DISCUSSION GUIDE

PART 1: WHAT IS GRIEFSHARE?

Begin your discussion with a few questions that will help your leadership team get to know each other and then focus on the material presented in Part 1 of the Leader Training Video:

1. Introduce yourself and share why you are involved in the GriefShare ministry.

2. What is your dream or vision for our GriefShare ministry?

3. What fears or concerns do you have about being involved in the GriefShare ministry?

4. Who is the target audience for GriefShare and why is it important to understand whom GriefShare is designed for?

5. What are the three components for running a successful ministry, and why is each component important?

6. In your own words, explain the concept of GriefShare as an “emergency room.” Why is this concept important for our church? And why should each of the 13 sessions always be “open”?

7. What can we do to maximize our GriefShare ministry’s outreach and impact in the community? How will we promote our group to the community?

RELEVANT SECTIONS IN YOUR GRIEFSHARE LEADER’S GUIDE:

About GriefShare (p. 9)
Who Will Come (p. 21)
GriefShare Distinctives (p. 13)
How GriefShare Works (p. 17)
Beginning Your GriefShare Ministry (p. 19)

PART 2: THE EIGHT SUCCESS TIPS

SUCCESS TIP #1 – BUILD A TEAM

1. What unique contribution can you make to our GriefShare leadership team? What gifts or strengths do you bring to our leadership team?

2. Why is it important to have a team of leaders versus a single leader? Who are five people we can ask to become part of our team?

3. Besides group facilitators, what other roles for additional team members would be helpful for an effective GriefShare ministry at our church? Make a list of these roles.
4. Looking at the list, consider the gifts and abilities of our current team. What might be missing? Discuss team assignments.

5. Discuss specific guidelines or rules our church has developed for leaders. Why is it vital that those on our team have experienced healing on their grief journey?

RELEVANT SECTIONS IN YOUR GRIEFSHARE LEADER’S GUIDE:
Finding & Recruiting Your Leadership Team (p. 25)
Training Leaders (p. 33)

SUCCESS TIP #2 – READ THE LEADER’S GUIDE

1. What two items in our GriefShare kit are used to help us train a team of leaders?

2. Why should each of us read the Leader’s Guide?

3. What date (deadline) can we agree upon as a leadership team to have read the Leader’s Guide completely?

4. As a team, what can we do to hold each other accountable to adhere to the principles and goals laid out in the Leader’s Guide?

5. What parts of the Leader’s Guide will we be using on a weekly basis with our GriefShare group?

SUCCESS TIP #3 – WATCH THE LEADER TRAINING VIDEO

1. Why is it important for each new leader to watch the Leader Training Video initially?

2. Why is it important for another trained team member to walk through the training video with a new leader?

3. Why is it important for our leadership team to watch the Leader Training Video annually as a team?

SUCCESS TIP #4 – SIGN UP FOR THE LEADERZONE

1. What is the LeaderZone and why is it important?

2. What features of the LeaderZone most interested you and why?

3. How can we ensure all our leaders and all new leaders log in and refer to the LeaderZone regularly for new insights and ideas?

RELEVANT SECTION IN YOUR GRIEFSHARE LEADER’S GUIDE:
GriefShare Web Resources (p. 47)
SUCCESS TIP #5 – PROVIDE WORKBOOKS

1. Why is it important for each leader as well as group member to have a personal copy of the workbook?

2. What is the “From Mourning to Joy” and why is it as important to the leader as it is to the participant?

3. What are some things we can do to encourage our participants to use their workbooks?

4. When a participant purchases his or her own workbook, the participant typically takes ownership, values it, and uses it. What is the best way for us to handle the cost of the workbooks here at our church?

SUCCESS TIP #6 – USE THE ONLINE FIND A GROUP

1. What is the online Find a Group search engine and how can it help us be more effective in reaching our community?

2. Where do we customize our online Find a Group listing on the LeaderZone website?

3. Why is customizing our online listing and keeping it up-to-date before each 13-week cycle important?

4. Who will assume the responsibility of keeping our listing up-to-date and publicizing and promoting the GriefShare ministry within our church and community?

5. What are some other creative ways our team could publicize and promote our GriefShare ministry within our church? Our community?

RELEVANT SECTIONS IN YOUR GRIEFSHARE LEADER’S GUIDE:
What to Do First Checklist (p. 4)
GriefShare Web Resources (p. 47)
Publicity (p. 59)

SUCCESS TIP #7 – CONNECT WITH A GRIEFSHARE CONSULTANT

1. Why is connecting with a GriefShare church consultant an important part of being an effective leader?

2. What kinds of issues would we like to discuss with our consultant?

3. Each leader on our team is welcome to call a consultant with questions or concerns, but who will be our team's point person (primary leader, final decision maker) to connect with our consultant?

RELEVANT SECTION IN YOUR GRIEFSHARE LEADER’S GUIDE:
What to Do First Checklist (p. 4)
SUCCESS TIP #8 – PRAY

1. Will we (personally and as a team) make an ongoing commitment to pray for our GriefShare ministry?

2. What steps can we take to strengthen the prayer support for our leadership team? For our participants?

3. Whom can we ask to serve on our GriefShare prayer team? (Identify prospects and discuss who will contact them and organize the prayer team.)

RELEVANT SECTION IN YOUR GRIEFSHARE LEADER’S GUIDE:
Prayer Support (p. 23)

PART 3: KEY INFORMATION FOR YOUR GROUP

LET MEMBERS KNOW THEY ARE WELCOME

1. What is our strategy for creating an environment of warmth and hospitality?

2. Why is it wise to organize our hospitality in a way that has male leaders interacting with men and female leaders interacting with women?

3. What are the risks if we don’t follow this guideline?

RELEVANT SECTIONS IN YOUR GRIEFSHARE LEADER’S GUIDE:
Hospitality (p. 54)
Staying in Touch with Group Members (p. 57)

ATTEND AT LEAST THREE SESSIONS

1. Even though participants should attend the entire 13-week cycle, why does GriefShare make the recommendation for participants to attend at least three weekly sessions?

2. How can we effectively use this recommendation to encourage potential participants to come to GriefShare?

3. What are some ways for us to encourage someone who doesn’t return after attending one or more sessions?

4. What are some things we can do to keep our participants encouraged and engaged?
COMPLETE THEIR “FROM MOURNING TO JOY” EXERCISES

1. Why are the From Mourning to Joy exercises so important to the healing of the participants?

2. Why is it important for us as leaders to be enthused about the From Mourning to Joy exercises?

3. Besides modeling taking notes during the video and completing our From Mourning to Joy exercises, how else can we influence participants to complete their weekly From Mourning to Joy exercises?

4. What can we do as leaders to generate more enthusiasm from the participants for the weekly From Mourning to Joy exercises?

5. What’s the best way to lead a discussion on the From Mourning to Joy exercises if a majority of the group has not completed the exercises?

RELEVANT SECTION IN YOUR GRIEFSHARE LEADER’S GUIDE:
Workbook-Based Personal Study & Reflection (p. 18)

FOLLOW GROUP GUIDELINES

1. What are some benefits participants will experience by following some basic group guidelines?

2. Do we want to use the guidelines in the workbook or do we want to create a list specific for our church? What about a blend of both?

3. Are there any church-specific guidelines we need to be aware of and apply to our group? Who in church leadership should review and approve our guidelines?

4. What is the best way to introduce group guidelines and hold group members accountable?

5. How would we address and redirect group members who do not follow the guidelines?

RELEVANT SECTION IN YOUR GRIEFSHARE LEADER’S GUIDE:
Group Guidelines (p. 56)

LOOK FOR SIMILARITIES

1. Why do you think GriefShare is placing such an emphasis on making sure that all GriefShare group members feel comfortable, regardless of the circumstances surrounding their grief?

2. Have you ever felt like an outsider, even among others who are grieving? Share briefly.
3. As leaders, how can we prevent that from happening?

4. How can we help the group to bond and help each other?

RELEVANT SECTION IN YOUR GRIEFSHARE LEADER’S GUIDE:
Who Will Come (p. 21)

PART 4: LEADING YOUR GROUP WELL

1. What is the difference between teaching and facilitating?

2. Why is it important for group members to have an opportunity to participate in the group discussion?

3. What are some strategies we can use with difficult people who may attend our group?

4. How will we handle the situation if one of our group members says he or she is considering suicide?

5. Why is it important for us to have co-facilitators in each small group?

6. When we have questions or concerns about our group, whom will we go to for advice and counsel?

7. What is our plan to grow and develop our leadership team?

RELEVANT SECTIONS IN YOUR GRIEFSHARE LEADER’S GUIDE:
GriefShare Distinctives (p. 13)
How GriefShare Works (p. 17)
Finding & Recruiting Your Leadership Team (p. 25)