

Notes to the Leader for Session G77 – Accomplishments

About this Topic—Preparation is Very Important

This session should be used in conjunction with G81 – Failure. In the interests of ending on a high note, we suggest using G77 *after* G81.

Preparation for this session is very important—the experience will not be very rewarding if members don't do it. The exercise is timed at only about 10 minutes to avoid requiring members to review their entire lives in detail and feel stressed about the topic. When you're reviewing your session calendar or handing out the preparation at a previous session, please emphasize 1) the importance of the preparation, and 2) that this is intended to be a positive experience and any accomplishment can be meaningful.

Preliminaries

Prior to beginning the session, take a few minutes to go over the announcements of church events given at the last leader meeting or from a recent church bulletin. Also, remind members of the next meeting date. Get volunteers to light the chalice, read the opening and intermediate reading, and lead the responsive reading at the end. You might also point out the additional quotations about the topic on the front and back of the order of worship.

Feedback

This session includes a segment with feedback on the sharing. In these small groups, feedback is an exercise in ministry, not judgment or questioning. It should be very brief, gentle, and positive, and not lead to a discussion. Like sharing/deep listening, members should participate as the spirit moves them. Some members may choose not to offer feedback and that's fine, too.

Timekeeping

Use this timetable as an aid to keep the gathering on track.

Preliminaries	3 minutes
Opening	5 minutes
Check-in	15 minutes
Reading	2 minutes
Silence	3 minutes
Sharing/deep listening	60 minutes
Feedback	15 minutes
Singing	5 minutes
Closing	2 minutes
Total	<u>approx. 110 minutes</u>

Preparation for the Next Session

Make sure everyone gets a copy of the preparation sheet for the next session.