



PRESENTING GRIEF SHARE TO YOUR CHURCH LEADERS

You're excited about the possibility of your church offering this ministry, but you haven't yet presented it to your church leaders. You know how busy they are, and you want to be sure to communicate the main points.

Here's how to present GriefShare to your church staff with clarity, conciseness, and passion.

Schedule a 30-minute appointment

This is key. Otherwise, you'll ambush your pastor with information he may not be ready to process. Plus, during an impromptu meeting, you'll likely feel rushed and forget to make key points.

During the meeting

Here's what you'll want to communicate during your meeting:

Explain what GriefShare is

If your church leadership isn't clear about what GriefShare is, they probably won't give you a green light. So communicate that:

- GriefShare is a Christ-centered, video-based ministry. It helps people grieving a loved one's death.
- GriefShare is designed to reach and help people inside, and outside, the host church.

Explain what GriefShare consistently does

- GriefShare helps churches grow. This is due to the fact that GriefShare draws people from outside of the host church. These "guests" often join the host church.
- GriefShare introduces people to Christ. Many of the people who attend from the community likely will not have an active spiritual life and will not be followers of Christ.
- GriefShare empowers your church to minister to multiple bereaved people at the same time.
- GriefShare leads to healing and hope.

Explain why you want to begin this ministry at your church

You have a passion to help people who are grieving. Maybe you've been there yourself—knowing the loneliness, loss of hope, bitterness and anger, the feelings of sadness and depression, and how deeply the loss permeates your life.

Share why you have a passion for this ministry and what could happen if your church supports it. Express your vision and commitment. Church leaders need to know that you will be around to follow through and build the ministry.

Share your plan

- Explain that you'd like to form a team to lead GriefShare at your church.
- Let your pastor know what your role will be on the team, the number of other people you'll need and what their roles will be (a person for publicity, someone to be a greeter, a person to co-facilitate the group with you, etc.).
- Give your pastor a proposed budget. Remember that GriefShare participants typically pay for the workbooks, so the church won't have to pay for them.

Explain why you think the program will be a success

- The program comes with a training video and detailed Leader's Guide.
- GriefShare offers free phone support and a leadership website to help you troubleshoot problems. You won't have to bombard the church leadership with questions about how to make it work.
- GriefShare comes with publicity materials (posters, promotional videos, ads, sample letters, and more).

Tell your pastor what you need

- Support: You'll need the church to provide an adequate meeting space and the time and resources to promote your group inside and outside the church.
- A kit: Ask your church to purchase the kit and your initial order of workbooks.
- Ask your pastor when he'll let you know the final decision.

What to leave with your pastor

Leave the "Introducing GriefShare" sheet with your pastor. It contains a summary of what you'll have shared with him, plus instructions on where he can go to find more information on GriefShare.

Need more help?

Contact us. Our GriefShare consultants will answer any questions you have and help you begin this ministry at your church. Just give us a call at 800-395-5755 (919-562-2112 international).