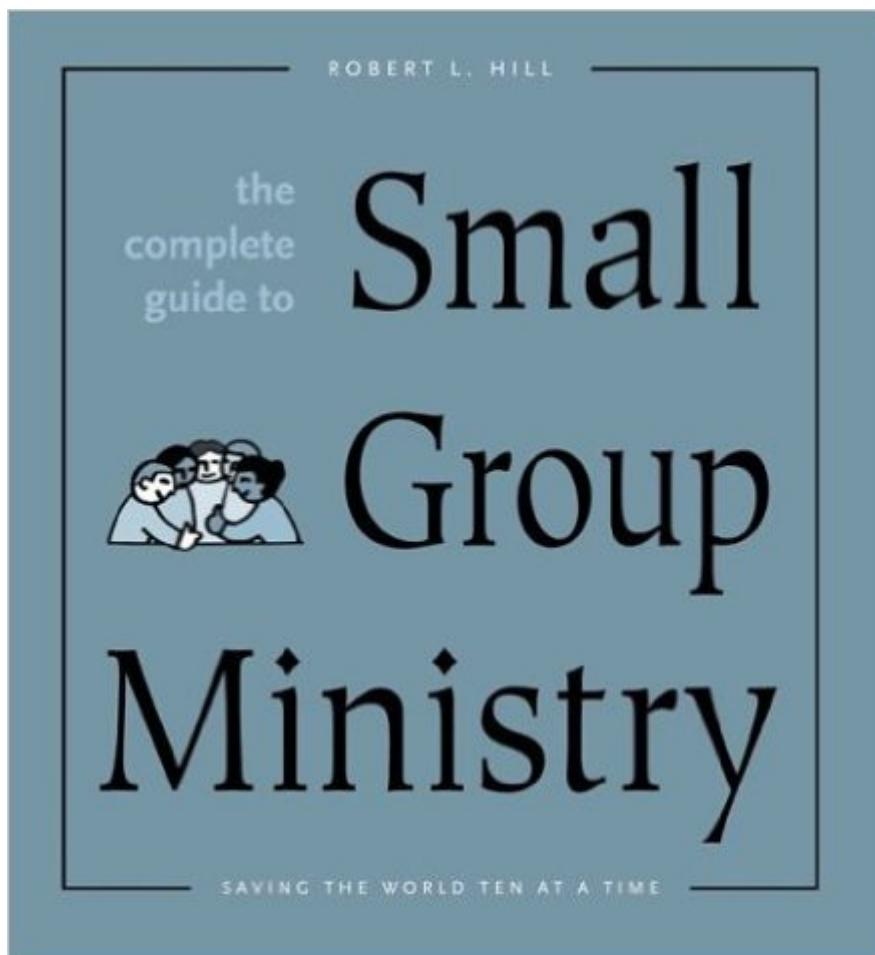


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# The Complete Guide To Small Group Ministry: Saving The World Ten At A Time



## **Synopsis**

Book by Robert C. Hill

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 116 pages

Publisher: Unitarian Universalist Assn (June 1, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1558964576

ISBN-13: 978-1558964570

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 8.3 x 0.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,283,234 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #137 inÂ  Books > Religion & Spirituality > Other Religions, Practices & Sacred Texts > Unitarian Universalism

## **Customer Reviews**

This book is a terrific "how to" guide for creating and nurturing small church groups that will in turn nurture their members. If you have questions about why small groups have not worked in your church, or started well, but couldn't maintain their momentum, this is the book for you. Sometimes called "covenant groups," the small groups of this model have "covenant" as their cornerstone. Each group writes up a covenant for how they will conduct the group and how they will minister to each other, their church, and the larger community in which they live. By following the basic structure given in this book, your small group can become a little community within your church, rather than just a casual gathering of people who may or may not show up. If your congregation has any fears about growing and losing the intimate feeling of their church, small groups such as the ones described are the answer. In addition to giving step-by-step instructions for creating the groups, Rev. Hill provides many examples from covenant groups from all sizes of churches. The sample information at the back of the book (pamphlets, forms, training, etc.) are very helpful for getting your program up and running without having to start from scratch.

As someone involved in small group ministry, I have found this book indispensable. It incorporates the experiences of many who have been working in the vineyards and lays out in a clear and concise way how to organize and maintain small group ministry in a religious community. Great book!

If you are thinking about integrating small group ministry into the life of your congregation, this book is a must have. This volume is a wonderful survey of small group ministry in the Unitarian Universalist Association as of its printing. It describes the many ways congregations "do" small groups as well as points out key elements of all groups.

This book is a great resource for best practices in covenant groups in a church. There are also many explanations of things that can go wrong and what to avoid. It is great for ministers and others managing and organizing and facilitating groups.

I actually went through training for this service for my church. There were a dozen of us in the training group, the idea being that we would each lead a group of our own. Overwhelmingly we agreed (except for the minister herself) that Hill had never actually done this himself. This is a very idealistic idea of how such small groups should work, not how they do work. The groups that came from this training adapted the "rules", each group amending the set of rules to meet the needs of that group. Most were far more relaxed than Hill suggested, beginning with trust and confidence in each other. I truly question that this is a way to "save the world", but the groups are a nice way for people to get to know each other better.

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