**VISION-CAST TIPS**

**Keep it short**: Remember, your Gathering participants are there to meet other people, not listen to their leader(s) for 20 minutes. Keep your initial vision-cast between three and four minutes.

**Keep it clear**. Communicate:

* *Who:* Introduce your leadership team.
* *What:* Let the participants know exactly what they are there to do: meet other people, connect, and hopefully figure out their best next steps. Let them know how many weeks your Gathering will be together and how many social events, if any, your Gathering will be doing.
* *Where:* Let them know where you plan on meeting for the next few weeks.

**Keep it simple**: Don’t overcomplicate your vision. Stay away from phrases like: “This will be the best five weeks of your life!” or “I guarantee that you’re going to meet the best friends you’ve ever had!” Don’t overpromise anything. Let them know that if they decide the Gathering is not for them, that its okay. You’ll gladly help them find another Gathering.

**Keep it personal**: It’s always helpful to briefly let them know why you are leading and how Singles Gatherings have impacted your relationships.

**Sample Vision Cast**:

“Hey Everyone!

I’m so glad you’re here and that you signed up for our Singles Gathering! If this is your first time attending a Gathering, we’re very excited you are here. I know it could have felt odd to sign up to hang out with a bunch of strangers for five weeks, but we really hope you connect and start the process of meeting new people and making some new friends. We’re working hard to make Gatherings one of the best places for people to meet and to build friendships.

This is my(first, second, twentieth, etc.) time leading a Gathering, and the reason I lead is that Gatherings have really made a difference in my life and in my friendships. I’ve made some great friends. I decided to become a leader because I love seeing people build friendships. Let me know if I, or anyone on our leadership team, can help you at any point along the way. Speaking of the leadership team, let me introduce you to my fellow leaders . . .

Finally, and just for clarity, our Gathering is the (insert your Gathering name here) Gathering. We’ll be meeting for the next four Saturdays (or whenever you are meeting) at the same time and place, and we’ll be finished today by (insert end time). Let’s get started!”