



Start A First Place Ministry Today!

Members Kit

Group Leader kit

**Step 1: Identify a church and leader to sponsor the group.**

Enthusiasm is the primary qualification for becoming a First Place group leader. While leaders are not required to be at their goal weight before leading a class, they should be following the program's Commitments and moving toward their goal weight as an example to the group.

The most successful First Place programs are hosted by a church. If your church does not have a group, ask your pastor or another local pastor about sponsoring the First Place program. First Place groups can also be formed outside a church setting. Classes can be held in homes, neighbourhood centres, campuses, hospitals or the workplace—but permission to conduct a class should be obtained prior to beginning a class. (Check to see if there will be any fees charged for building use.)

**Step 2: Purchase the First Place leader materials.**

To begin a First Place group, you will need to purchase a **First Place Group Starter Kit**. Leaders need to purchase a Member's Kit so they can reference the materials used by group members.

The First Place Group Starter Kit contains everything you need to start a group. The easy-to-use Leader's Guide explains all aspects of the program—from how to publicize and plan an initial orientation session to step-by-step instructions on how to conduct First Place meetings. Also included are lesson plans for 13 weekly meetings, plus lesson plans for each of the eight 10-week Bible studies.

The Bible study **Giving Christ First Place** is included in the Group Starter Kit. For each session the leader will need to choose a new Bible study for the group. First Place has 16 studies now available.. Use the Orientation DVD to explain the program to potential class members, and the Food Exchange Plan DVD to teach the Live-it food exchange plan. (Both DVDs are included in the Group Starter Kit along with Leadership Training DVD.)

How to Order: Order your supplies in Australia through Koorong Bookstores see [www.koorong.com.au](http://www.koorong.com.au) or contact Australia Networking Leader.

**Step 3: Have members purchase the necessary materials.**

When you have a leader and a group of individuals interested in starting the program, each new member will need a **First Place Members Kit and First Place Study**. When a group begins a second session, members will need to purchase the next Bible study. Couples may share one First Place Member's Kit but need individual Bible studies.

**Step 4: Determine if additional fees are required.**

When more funds are needed to cover start-up expenses—upright medical scales for weekly weigh-ins, leader materials, incentive awards, victory celebrations or leadership training—it becomes necessary to charge individuals an additional registration fee, usually \$10–\$20. Some groups may want to consider adding child-care and scholarship costs to their program as well. First Place advises leaders to consult with their pastor or other church official to determine the registration fee to be collected from each member or couple.

**Step 5: Register your Group.**

Create an online community for your First Place group. Promote and manage your group with this timesaving, easy-to-use web page provided free from Australia Website!! Inform and inspire your group members! Link to the national First Place community! Many enquires come in each week wanting to know where groups are located. This is a great way to promote your group. Fill in the Registration Form at <http://firstplaceaustralia.com>

**Step 6: Subscribe to the First Place Leader's E-Newsletter.**

The Leaders E-Newsletter is your guide to First Place leadership. As a leader, you can receive free leadership tips, tools and techniques delivered conveniently to your e-mail address. Be the first to hear about new Bible studies and other great products that will help you keep your group running strong! [Subscribe to the Leader's E-Newsletter!](#) We also have our own OzE-News (Newsletter) for what is happening with groups in Australia. Free of charge see <http://www.geocities.com/firstplaceaustralia/Newsletters.htm>

**Step 7: Encourage members to read the First Place E-Newsletter.**

To enhance the success of each member's First Place experience, leaders should encourage members to subscribe to the First Place E-Newsletter. This valuable online resource supplements learning, provides new recipes, and inspires members to keep Christ in first place! [Subscribe to the E-Newsletter!](#)

**Step 8: Join Australia Oceana Online Group** for those without local group support. Do the program with others in Australia and New Zealand. See Online Group at <http://www.net-pages.org/0001/home.htm> For more information about leading a First Place group, please contact First Place Australia Networking Leader, Barbara Lukies Email: [firstplaceaustralia@yahoo.com.au](mailto:firstplaceaustralia@yahoo.com.au) or ph 0242718800 , Postal : **Australia Networking Leader, 11 Anthony Ave Farmborough Heights NSW 2526**

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Leadership Training Available : Workshops, Retreats, Area Leaders Meetings

See Australia Website at

[Http://firstplaceaustralia.com](http://firstplaceaustralia.com)

Contact:

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