



Share Your Faith

Handbook

Resources for travelers journeying
with Christ into their community.



INTENTIONALLY ENGAGE YOUR
COMMUNITY WITH CHRIST

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SESSION 1

Pray/Consider/Sow

“If a church is good at making disciples it will be good at making leaders because in the end, a good spiritual formation plan will lead to an accelerated spiritual multiplication

Gary Rohrmayer, *Next Steps for Leading a Missional Church*



“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.”

2 PETER 3:18 (ESV)

Once one is a follower of Jesus Christ they begin the lifelong journey toward spiritual growth. While they will never fully attain this on earth, it is important for believers to be constantly fed. As the above quote suggests, it is the responsibility of church leaders to develop disciples for the Lord.

The church’s mission is to evangelize the lost and teach them to have an ongoing and growing relationship with the Lord. You are one of these leaders and it is our prayer that God will use you in amazing ways to touch the lives of others you have been called to serve. It is essential that you continue to grow spiritually. This is done through spiritual disciplines such as prayer (Matt. 6: 5-13), Love (1 Cor. 13:4-13), reading God’s word (Prov. 1-6), giving (2 Cor. 9:6-8), quiet time (Psalm 16:11), serving (John 12:26).

The “Spiritual Formation” aspect of this training is designed to encourage your personal walk with the Lord and help you teach others to do the same, discipleship being one of the key aspects of this training (Matt. 28:19-20; 2 Tim. 2:2; 2 Tim. 3:16-17).

1. What are your initial thoughts about this journey (be honest with yourself)?
2. What comes to mind when you hear the term “Spiritual Formation”?
3. Since some define discipleship differently, what is your understanding of Jesus’ command?

PRAY

Prayer is communication between the believer and God. This is one of, if not the greatest, ways we draw closer to Him. Before deciding how to serve the Lord, it is imperative that you spend time in prayer. He will guide your heart and give you wisdom in the best way to serve. Know this, without prayer it will be extremely hard to continue joyous service.

1. How are you making time with God a priority in your life? Do you spend regular time in prayer and/or solitude?

What insights do the following verses give you?

Luke 6:12 _____

Philippians 4:6 _____

James 1:5 _____

2. What have your current interactions been like with this person?



“With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints.”

EPHESIANS 6:18 (NASB)

A STORY

One of the greatest blessings I had was when our new neighbors moved in across the street. The husband was a Jump Instructor for the Air Force Academy and his wife was from Brazil (they had met while he was stationed there). They had only been married less than a year and were trying to figure out life together. She was a Christian, however the husband was not. The day they moved in I introduced myself and tried to help them move in, but I was given strict instructions not to help (military moving thing). After a couple weeks, we began to get acquainted. Once the wife found out I was a pastor, she, more than once, suggested that I share with her husband the truth of Jesus Christ. I prayed many times on how to share and meet the needs of my neighbor. Over time we became good friends and one random day, while visiting their home, he accepted Jesus as his personal Savior. Since then our friendship has continued to grow and he has been able to open up and share the things he struggles with—to me, once a complete stranger. This is the wonderful nature of God and He uses those who love Him to build these relationships. Your neighbor, co-worker, or teammate may just be your next best friend, but more importantly they may come to know the Lord as their Savior. Isn't that worth saying, "Hi!"?

CONSIDER

Knowing your gifts from the Spirit is highly valuable in serving God. Gifts are given by the Spirit and used to serve the *Ekklesia* (Greek for "believing community"). Understanding your gifts helps you dig into your passions, seeking to glorify God. There are many gift assessments available and it is highly recommended for you to find out what your gifts are before serving. Ask your pastor if your church has a *Spiritual Gifts Assessment* available. Also, read and consider the following passages:

(Acts 1:8; Rom. 12:3-8; 1 Pet. 4:10-11; 1 Cor. 12:1-31; 13:1-3, 13; Eph. 4:11-16; 2 Tim. 1:6-7) What did you discover?

1. Have you considered, or do you know, what your gifts are?
2. How can you use them to serve God and those around you?
3. Have you considered where God has placed you? How can you serve in your neighborhood, workplace, or places where you have leisurely time?

