

House Churches: Fall 2020

Leadership Development

As point people, facilitators, overseers we have taken on leadership roles for home gatherings. We know God is the Sovereign Father, Christ is the head of His Church, and the Spirit indwells and leads it. Our role as overseers is to help ensure that stays true and to steward the people who come into our doors. There are many reasons our community practices home church rhythms, but one of the primary ones is it creates space for more people to participate, discover spiritual gifts, and develop as leaders. We are inviting you to keep in mind the larger overarching aim of developing “competency” as leaders for ourselves and others. The 4 stage model of competency will be a useful framework for us.

1. Unconscious Incompetence
2. Conscious Incompetence
3. Conscious Competence
4. Unconscious Competence

Core Values for Home Gatherings

We are going to be supplying support documents and resources during the Fall scattered season. The headers below exemplify the values of the home church space that we have all practiced now for years. Remember that everything *cannot* and *should not* be crammed into one small gathering space—the church is the people, not the event. There is no magic recipe for running an impactful house church space. Ultimately, the facilitator(s) role is not to follow any script, but to grow in the practice of spiritual discernment. This means following the Holy Spirit’s leading before and during the gathering space.

Fellowship

- This is the NT notion of koinonia, breaking bread, mutual edification. It may involve light-hearted social connection, food, or more intentional checking in, supporting needs, celebrating victories, prophecy, and praying with one another.
- We will provide some ideas to practice this value each week, but feel free to hear God, be creative, and lead this value.

Adoration

- This is the fundamental NT posture of re-orienting ourselves before God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We often default to musical worship, but this is not the only way. You could explore prayer rhythms that focus on gratitude, adoration, and the character of God. You can explore meditation exercises with the psalms or a prayer book. Or you might simply provide open-ended space and wait for God to speak, prompt, and lead different ones in the room.
- We will provide some ideas to practice this value each week, but feel free to hear God, be creative, and lead this value.

Learning

- This is the NT practice of committing ourselves to the Apostles Teaching or the Christological interpretation of the Jewish Scriptures. Obviously, at this stage in Church history, this also includes what the 4th century Church confirmed as the New Testament. The goal here is that the community would continue to indwell and understand the revelation of God passed down in the Scriptures. This is both a communal and pneumatological process, where the Spirit reveals the intentions and truth of God about himself, our world, history, others, ourselves, and so forth.
- We will be advocating that we loosely follow a similar path of studying the Scriptures as one grad narrative for the Fall. The learning space will be shaped by a four part movement of:
 1. **Scripture:** A selected group of passages to read together.
 2. **Resources:** A brief, audio, video, or written excerpt that relates to these passages.
 3. **Dialogue:** Example questions to promote dialogue and learning.
 4. **Implications:** An example of a life application, action step, or paradigm shift.
- We will provide some framework for these four movements each week. The facilitators can decide what resources and questions they want to use with their group. Resources will be linked and posted weekly on the Website under the "Church @ Home" tab. Leader support documents will be located at the bottom of the website under "Facilitators" and the password is "holyspirit."

Fall Resources

- [Common Prayer book](#) or the [Common Prayer App](#)
- [Every Moment Holy book](#)
- [A Passion for God's Story](#) by Philip Greenslade (excerpts will be posted digitally)
- [God's Big Picture](#) by Vaughan Roberts (excerpts will be posted digitally)
- Any other resources will be posted digitally