PLACE-SHARING

The purpose of these sessions is to reflect on the concept and practice of place-sharing as one potential way of living into the image of Jesus, the true Place-sharer. Here is a GCI Buzz on Place-sharing that outlines the concept of place-sharing.

Format – Facilitated learning with small group discussions in groups of eight or less.

Below is the key for each icon included in the Facilitator Guide.

Each session will include:

- **Icebreaker** – a warm-up activity to aid group interaction.
- **Personal Exploration Small Group Discussion** – a group conversation
- **Video Lesson** - an educational presentation covering the main concept of the session.
- **Small Group Discussion** - questions for the group to process and apply what they have learned.
- **Personal Reflection** - prompts that provide opportunity to process the session.
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FACILITATING A CONNECT GROUP

You are setting the tone for the group discussion. Remember to establish norms and create a safe space to participate.

WHAT ARE SOME BEST PRACTICES FOR GROUP FACILITATION?

Please...

☑ Encourage participation.

☑ Guide the conversation around the set topic.

☑ Model group standards in your interactions and remind members of the standard when decisions are made that conflict with them.

☑ Reflect and summarize to the group the overall feelings, reactions, ideas, or solutions shared during the discussion.

☑ Resolve conflict by mediating differences in point of view.

☑ Be organized and flexible. This helps create the structure, while allowing you to respond to group needs.

Do not...

☒ Present yourself as the expert.

☒ Dominate the conversation by bringing the conversation back to your experiences, rejecting ideas without thoughtful consideration, using the group to share your personal opinions and values.

☒ Compete to have the deepest idea, last word, or be the favored person in the group.

☒ Disrupt the process of the group with excessive joking, mimicking, etc.

☒ Withdraw by becoming passive or overly formal.
HOW DOES PLACE-SHARING REFLECT THE MINISTRY OF JESUS? PART 1
PLACE-SHARING
1: HOW DOES PLACE-SHARING REFLECT THE MINISTRY OF JESUS? PART 1

ICEBREAKER: Finding the Fs  10 mins

Instructions
Place a square of paper with the text below face down in front of each person. (template in the Appendix)

FEATURE FILMS ARE THE RESULT OF YEARS OF SCIENTIFIC STUDY COMBINED WITH THE EXPERIENCE OF YEARS. THIS AUTHOR TURNS WORKS OF SCIENCE FICTION INTO ECONOMICS, FULFILLING THE READER’S FANTASIES OF CONQUEST INTO ACTS OF HEROES.

At your signal, people turn over their papers and read the statement on it. They have ten seconds to locate as many occurrences of the letter “F” as they can.

When ten seconds are up, ask them to place the squares face down.

Answers will probably range from three to seven. (There are six Fs in the “Feature films” sentence and seven in the “This author” sentence. Don’t reveal the answer yet.)

Ask people to try again with 15 seconds this time.

Suggestions for processing responses:

- What things or people in our lives do we not truly see, even though they are right in front of us?
- Discuss why it is important to pay attention to details, since details make up the bigger picture.
- How can we become more aware of other people and our surroundings?
PERSONAL EXPLORATION SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

15 mins

• How would you describe Jesus? When do you feel most connected to him?

• Can you think of a time where you experienced receiving genuine empathy? Share what it was like to be on the receiving end of this care. What impact did it make on you?

VIEW THE VIDEO

15 mins

FACILITATE A DISCUSSION AROUND THESE QUESTIONS:

40 mins

1. Tamar mentioned that the concept of place-sharing helped her look back and see that she had already been applying some aspects of place-sharing. In other words, the teaching on place-sharing gave her eyes to see and language to better understand and speak about what the Spirit had already led her to do.
   • What are some ways you may already be participating in place-sharing?
   • Whether you are already practicing aspects of place-sharing or not, suggest ways you might use this information to help others see if they too have already been living out some aspects of place-sharing.

2. Jesus is the true and perfect Place-sharer. How have you experienced Jesus as Place-sharer? Reflect on his earthly ministry and his ongoing ministry – what about Jesus’ ministry of place-sharing connects with you deeply?

3. What difference would it make in your life, the life of your church community, and in your neighborhood, if you committed to growing as place-sharers with a group of others? What would it take?
   • How might you invite the Holy Spirit to personally form you into a better participant in Jesus’ place-sharing ministry?
   • What spiritual practice might support your formation as a place-sharer in this season?
PERSONAL REFLECTION – Take time to journal or reflect on the prompt below: 10 mins

What are 2-3 points that stood out to you in the teaching?
• Why are they important to you?
• How might you apply them to your life?
2

HOW DOES PLACE-SHARING REFLECT THE MINISTRY OF JESUS? PART 2
PLACE-SHARING
2: HOW DOES PLACE-SHARING REFLECT
THE MINISTRY OF JESUS? PART 2

ICEBREAKER: Back-to-Back Feedback  15 mins
Supplies needed: magic markers, pieces of heavy weight paper for everyone (including facilitators).

Instructions
Give everyone a magic marker and tape a piece of paper to each person's back (including your own).

Have everyone go around and write some positive feedback about each person on that person's back. People do not have to write their names next to their comments. However, it is important to stress that people should write only positive comments. (Negative feedback should only be given face-to-face, never behind someone's back.) As facilitator, be aware of people who may be receiving very brief or very lengthy comments and help to balance that out.

Once everyone has had a chance to write on everyone else's back, tell the group to return to their seats. When you say OK, people can take off their papers and read their feedback.

Suggestions for processing responses:
• If there are negative comments, process them with care, being mindful of protecting both individuals and the group.
• Positive feedback can be very powerful, and there are not many vehicles for genuine praise to be expressed in a group.
• We should be aware of our positive qualities, not just because they make us feel good, but because these qualities are resources that we can call upon in life.
PERSONAL EXPLORATION SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

15 mins

• What positive outcomes have resulted from a boundary you set?

• A good deal of Jesus’ earthly ministry seemed to occur as interruptions as he was traveling or teaching a crowd. Can you think of a time when you allowed yourself to be interrupted and a holy moment occurred? (Perhaps stopping to answer a question from a stranger and moving into a deeper conversation, or pausing work to play and connect with your child, etc.)

VIEW THE VIDEO

15 mins

FACILITATE A DISCUSSION AROUND THESE QUESTIONS:

40 mins

1. In the video, Tamar outlines the practices below as essential components of place-sharing. As a group, take turns explaining why each is important, and how you have experienced or implemented these practices.
   • Proximity
   • Your expectations when place-sharing
   • Intentionality
   • Creating boundaries
   • Learning about yourself and the other person
   • Curating the space

2. What boundaries do you need to be aware of as you personally grow in the practice of place-sharing?

3. Church leaders, what can you do to multiply place-sharers?
   • How can place-sharing transform your team?
   • What can you do to engage and equip someone else as you learn in place-sharing?

PERSONAL REFLECTION – Take time to journal or reflect on the prompt below:

5 mins

What do you need to take the next step in your place-sharing journey?
3
DEVELOPING HABITS OF PLACE-SHARING
PLACE-SHARING
3: DEVELOPING HABITS OF PLACE-SHARING

ICEBREAKER & PERSONAL EXPLORATION SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION: PLACE-SHARING TESTIMONIES ⏰ 15 mins

- Elizabeth Mullins
- Anthony Mullins
- What impacted you the most as you listened to Elizabeth and Anthony discuss their experiences? Share why it affected you and how you might integrate what you learned into your life.

PERSONAL EXPLORATION: ⏰ 15 mins

Make sure you have a pen or pencil to do this exercise. Use the circle below to create a pie chart that indicates how you spend your typical weekday. Divide the circle into pizza-style slices indicating the percentage of time you spend on each activity. For example: sleeping, eating, working, spending time with family, etc.

- What does the percentage of time spent on each activity tell you about your habits?
- What do those habits – and the amount of time spent on them – tell you about your values?
- What are some of your daily/weekly routines? What impact do they have on your outlook, mood, and overall life?
VIEW THE VIDEO & REVIEW **DEVELOPING HABITS OF PLACE-SHARING**  ⏳ 20 mins

**FACILITATE A DISCUSSION AROUND THESE QUESTIONS:**  ⏳ 30 mins

In the video presentation, these three points were made:

1. The Bible is described as a habit-reforming book.
   - Do you agree with this? If so, how would you help others to read the Bible as a book capable of forming them to develop new, life-giving habits to replace old, unhealthy habits?
   - Can you think of examples of habits that Jesus practiced that shaped his life?

2. Habits can be formed by conscious, intentional effort. Habits can also be formed in us without any conscious intentional effort.
   - Do you agree? If so, list a few habits you developed intentionally and some that emerged on their own.
   - What are some of the things you have found helpful in developing new habits?

3. At the same time, humans are both habit-forming beings and are being formed. Can you identify any specific habits that have contributed to the person you have become today?

**PERSONAL REFLECTION**  ⏳ 10 mins

Select two or three of the habits on the ABC list that are meaningful to you. Discuss why you chose them and how you plan to make them a part of your life. How might the idea of habit-stacking help you?
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