

Spiritual Formation Guide for LOPC Teams - Template for Financial Team

Consider having music playing quietly in the background to create a space conducive for your work as a team.

Welcome everyone. Light a candle as an invitation and symbol of God's Holy presence to guide the work of the team.

Invite team members to sit quietly for a moment - take a deep breath - settle into the silence and space - to set aside their daily routine and tasks to be fully present for the work at hand.

Remind the group that investing these few moments of intentional reflection will help nurture and guide the work at hand.

Light a candle

Welcome everyone.

Ask group to take a deep breath + go around the circle to "check in" on how their day has been using the "one-breath rule"

Invite everyone to set aside the day and focus on the important budget decisions awaiting for our discussion tonight.

Prayer

Prepare a brief prayer to read or use an existing prayer that resonates with you and is appropriate for your team's mission and ministry. Close the prayer with a request to God for guidance during the meeting.

Read prepared prayer

Inspiration

Consider one or two of the following activities:

Scripture - select a BRIEF and appropriate passage from the Bible to frame your reflection and work as a team to print/share and read aloud.

Music - select a piece of music that evokes a feeling or inspiration or is related to your team's mission or task at hand.

Essay/poetry - select a brief and appropriate essay or poem to print/share read aloud. Invite the group to consider the meaning of the words personally and in the context of their work.

Photography/Art Work - select a photo, drawing/painting, craft to ponder and how God speaks through this artwork.

Distribute a penny to each person + ask them to carefully look at it & read it. Invite response.

Note "In God We Trust" printed on the coin.

Reflection

Invite your team to spend a few minutes to silently reflect on ways the inspiration activity resonated with them personally and/or in the context of their work on this team.

Invite individuals to share their reflections either orally with the group or in pairs or in writing on small slips of scratch paper. Collect and randomly distribute the written responses to be read aloud.

Ask the team to consider what that statement means in our daily lives AND in the financial stewardship of the team.

Pair members up for discussion - 5 min.

Report out/write responses on poster paper

Take Away & Closing

Thank everyone for contributing to the conversation. Invite the group to identify a "take away" from the activity to use in their work during the meeting and/or the personal lives.

Close with prayer of gratitude for the team members and request guidance for the work at hand.

Thanks for participation. We'll keep the poster paper here to guide us in our deliberations.

Prayer.

In all that you say or do...be invitational

Spiritual Formation Guide for LOPC Teams - Template for Worship Team

Consider having music playing quietly in the background to create a space conducive for your work as a team.

Welcome everyone. Light a candle as a symbol of God's Holy presence to guide the work of the team.

Invite team members to sit quietly for a moment - take a deep breath - settle into the silence and space - to set aside their daily routine and tasks to be fully present for the work at hand.

Remind the group that investing these few moments of intentional reflection will help nurture and guide the work at hand.

CD player + soft guitar music

Light candle

Sit quietly for 1 minute

Prayer

Prepare a brief prayer to read or use an existing prayer that resonates with you and is appropriate for your team's mission and ministry. Close the prayer with a request to God for guidance during the meeting.

Read written prayer by Thomas Merton

Inspiration

Consider one or two of the following activities:

Scripture - select a BRIEF and appropriate passage from the Bible to frame your reflection and work as a team to print/share and read aloud.

Music - select a piece of music that evokes a feeling or inspiration or is related to your team's mission or task at hand.

Essay/poetry - select a brief and appropriate essay or poem to print/share read aloud. Invite the group to consider the meaning of the words personally and in the context of their work.

Photography/Art Work - select a photo, drawing/painting, craft to ponder and how God speaks through this artwork.

Distribute Xerox copy of hymnal page with "Holy, Holy, Holy"

We are familiar with this hymn but have we ever intentionally heard its message?

Follow along the words while listening to this instrumental version of the hymn.

Notice words or verse you've never paid attention to before or that spoke to you.

Play/listen to CD

Reflection

Invite your team to spend a few minutes to silently reflect on ways the inspiration activity resonated with them personally and/or in the context of their work on this team.

Invite individuals to share their reflections either orally with the group or in pairs or in writing on small slips of scratch paper. Collect and randomly distribute the written responses to be read aloud.

Distribute index cards + invite group to jot down their responses to the exercise.

Collect/distribute/read aloud + comment or add thoughts - put cards back in pile on table

Take Away & Closing

Thank everyone for contributing to the conversation. Invite the group to identify a "take away" from the activity to use in their work during the meeting and/or the personal lives.

Close with prayer of gratitude for the team members and request guidance for the work at hand.

Thanks + invite everyone to find/take/keep their card to guide them during the meeting to discuss the musical ministry of the congregation.

In all that you say or do...be invitational

Spiritual Formation Guide for LOPC Teams - Template A

Consider having music playing quietly in the background to create a space conducive for your work as a team.

Welcome everyone. Light a candle as a symbol of God's Holy presence to guide the work of the team.

Invite team members to sit quietly for a moment - take a deep breath - settle into the silence and space - to set aside their daily routine and tasks to be fully present for the work at hand.

Remind the group that investing these few moments of intentional reflection will help nurture and guide the work at hand.

Place an empty chair in the front of the room - tell the group it represents God joining them for the meeting.

Before meeting, post pictures on the wall - invite group to walk around and look at the photos, noting which one appeals or "speaks" to them

Prayer

Prepare a brief prayer to read or use an existing prayer that resonates with you and is appropriate for your team's mission and ministry. Close the prayer with a request to God for guidance during the meeting.

Read prayer.

Inspiration

Consider one or two of the following activities:

Scripture - select a BRIEF and appropriate passage from the Bible to frame your reflection and work as a team to print/share and read aloud.

Music - select a piece of music that evokes a feeling or inspiration or is related to your team's mission or task at hand.

Essay/poetry - select a brief and appropriate essay or poem to print/share read aloud. Invite the group to consider the meaning of the words personally and in the context of their work.

Photography/Art Work - select a photo, drawing/painting, craft to ponder and how God speaks through this artwork.

Invite group to pick a picture that "speaks" to them and take it to their seat.

Sit quietly and ask yourself why and how this picture might represent how God speaks and works in your life (1-2 minutes)

Read Ps 46:10 aloud

Ask: Where and how (if at all) are you able to be still know God? Where and how can we make time/room God to find us?

Reflection

Invite your team to spend a few minutes to silently reflect on ways the inspiration activity resonated with them personally and/or in the context of their work on this team.

Invite individuals to share their reflections either orally with the group or in pairs or in writing on small slips of scratch paper. Collect and randomly distribute the written responses to be read aloud.

Open invitation and discussion

Take Away & Closing

Thank everyone for contributing to the conversation. Invite the group to identify a "take away" from the activity to use in their work during the meeting and/or the personal lives.

Close with prayer of gratitude for the team members and request guidance for the work at hand.

Invite group members to take the picture and place it somewhere at home/work to remind them of God's presence in their lives/work and to be aware of how God might find/speak to them in their everyday life.

In all that you say or do...be invitational

Spiritual Formation Guide for LOPC Teams - Template B

Consider having music playing quietly in the background to create a space conducive for your work as a team.

Welcome everyone. Light a candle as a symbol of God's Holy presence to guide the work of the team.

Invite team members to sit quietly for a moment - take a deep breath - settle into the silence and space - to set aside their daily routine and tasks to be fully present for the work at hand.

Remind the group that investing these few moments of intentional reflection will help nurture and guide the work at hand.

CD player playing thunderstorm/rain/piano.

Ask someone to light the candle.

Invite group to close their eyes, take a deep breath, listen to the rain/thunder/music.

60 seconds

Invite them to open their eyes and to join in an opening prayer

Prepare a brief prayer to read or use an existing prayer that resonates with you and is appropriate for your team's mission and ministry. Close the prayer with a request to God for guidance during the meeting.

Read prayer on seasons from Sam Hamilton-Poore's book on God and Nature

Inspiration

Consider one or two of the following activities:

Scripture - select a BRIEF and appropriate passage from the Bible to frame your reflection and work as a team to print/share and read aloud.

Music - select a piece of music that evokes a feeling or inspiration or is related to your team's mission or task at hand.

Essay/poetry - select a brief and appropriate essay or poem to print/share read aloud. Invite the group to consider the meaning of the words personally and in the context of their work.

Photography/Art Work * select a photo, drawing/painting, craft to ponder and how God speaks through this artwork.

Distribute printed copy of Ecclesiastes 3:1-B + 2 index cards

Go around the table, with one person reading one verse aloud.

Sit quietly for 60 seconds.

Reflection

Invite your team to spend a few minutes to silently reflect on ways the inspiration activity resonated with them personally and/or in the context of their work on this team.

Invite individuals to share their reflections either orally with the group or in pairs or in writing on small slips of scratch paper. Collect and randomly distribute the written responses to be read aloud.

Ask the group to write down one transition they are experiencing in their own life.

Play "Turn, Turn, Turn" by the Byrds on the CD player

Ask the group to now write down one transition they feel the congregation as a whole is going through. Invite members to share with the group what they've written

Take Away & Closing

Thank everyone for contributing to the conversation. Invite the group to identify a "take away" from the activity to use in their work during the meeting and/or the personal lives.

Close with prayer of gratitude for the team members and request guidance for the work at hand.

Remind everyone that transitions are a natural part of God's grand plan...change is natural. Take/hold hands and pray for the changes the congregation is going through and ask for guidance in this meeting to be mindful of the transitions/changes shared here.

In all that you say or do...be invitational

Spiritual Formation Guide for LOPC Teams -Template C

Consider having music playing quietly in the background to create a space conducive for your work as a team.

Welcome everyone. Light a candle as an invitation and symbol of God's Holy presence to guide the work of the team.

Invite team members to sit quietly for a moment - take a deep breath - settle into the silence and space - to set aside their daily routine and tasks to be fully present for the work at hand.

Remind the group that investing these few moments of intentional reflection will help nurture and guide the work at hand.

There is no need to do all of these things, but the important thing is to invite the Team members to settle into this time and space, to take a deep breath, and perhaps to ask God in the silence for what they need to be present here.

Prayer

Prepare a brief prayer to read or use an existing prayer that resonates with you and is appropriate for your team's mission and ministry. Close the prayer with a request to God for guidance.

Invite people to pray in silence for the person on their left and then on their right. Be sure to give them time to receive the prayers prayed for them. Then ask God's guidance for the team aloud and amen the Prayer time.

Inspiration

Consider one or two of the following activities:

Scripture - select a BRIEF and appropriate passage from the Bible to frame your reflection and work as a team to print/share and read aloud.

Music - select a piece of music that evokes a feeling or inspiration or is related to your team's mission or task at hand.

Essay/poetry - select a brief and appropriate essay or poem to print/share read aloud. Invite the group to consider the meaning of the words personally and in the context of their work.

Photography/Art Work - select a photo, drawing/painting, craft to ponder and how God speaks through this artwork.

Using scripture: Select one of the following short scriptures or another brief story from Jesus' ministry in the Gospels - Matt 9:1-B; Matt 10:5-14; Matt 13:1-9; Mark 3:1-6; Mark 4:35-47 - you get the idea but consult with a pastor if you need more suggestions.

Have the scripture printed out with two questions you want the Team to ponder and talk about together. Ask two different people to read the scripture SLOWLY and let them know you will cue them on when to read. Make certain you leave at least a minute of silence, preferably

more, between the readings. Then invite everyone to ponder the questions in silence and after about 5 minutes invite them to pair up and share their reflections or have the whole team share their reflections.

Reflection

Invite your team to spend a few minutes to silently reflect on ways the inspiration activity resonated with them personally and/or in the context of their work on this team.

Invite individuals to share their reflections either orally with the group or in pairs or in writing on small slips of scratch paper. Collect and randomly distribute the written responses to be read aloud.

Possible questions for reflection:

- 1) How does this scripture speak to me personally where I am today?
- 2) How might this scripture in some way inform our ministry together?

Take Away & Closing

Thank everyone for contributing to the conversation. Invite the group to identify a "take away" from the activity to use in their work during the meeting and./or the personal lives.

Close with prayer of gratitude for the team members and request guidance for the work at hand.

Identify the "take aways" and close the time of formation.

In all that you say or do...be invitational