

LEARNING HUB

**INTRODUCTION TO LEADING
A GROUP:
LEADERS' GUIDE**



PREPARATION AND OVERVIEW

- When you know how many people are attending, set out a suitable number of chairs so as not to look too cramped or too empty. Arrange seating so that discussions can happen naturally.
- Welcome people on arrival, and where possible have refreshments available to bring to their seats.
- Once everyone has settled, spend 5 minutes formally welcoming people. Indicate where the facilities are. Explain that the session should take an hour and a half, and that all conversations are kept confidential.

INTRODUCTION

After welcoming people, introduce the session.

- Explain that we'll be thinking about what it means to lead a generous community, and how generosity helps to shape the way we live out our faith and ministry together.
- Keep the atmosphere light, focusing on previous generous work already done and future work on generosity.

OPENING PRAYERS

You may want to lead this yourself, or find a volunteer among the participants who is willing to lead. Don't be afraid of silence – leave space for people to reflect between each section. The introduction and opening prayers combined should take around 5 minutes.

OPENING QUESTIONS

Watch the course video available. In total, these should take 50 minutes. Depending on the size of the group, use your judgement on whether these can be discussed together, or if you need to split into smaller groups.

- Draw out stories and inspiration from the video: keep it local where possible.
- Also draw out challenges from the video where possible.

- You also might want to encourage participants to link the relationship between love and generosity within community and church.

TIME OF REFLECTION

This section should take around 10 minutes. You could invite participants to reflect together or quietly to themselves.

CONVERSATION

Introduce a time of conversation. In total, these should take 30 minutes.

- Try to draw out the theme of generosity being a core of lived out faith and ministry.
- Encourage participants to reflect on whole-life generosity, especially in how we might empower ourselves, the congregation and church to view generosity as part of Christian discipleship and ministry.

CLOSING PRAYERS

Like the opening prayers, you may want to lead this yourself or find a volunteer among the participants who is willing to lead. The introduction and opening prayers combined should take around 5 minutes.

WRAPPING UP AND TAKING IT FURTHER

Thank people for coming, and wrap up by sharing some key points that have come out of discussions. Encourage people to continue reflecting on leading on generosity by using the other suggested materials and resources on the Learning Hub, and engage with other Generosity and Giving resources recommended by the National Giving Team.