

Way of Love

Workshop Leader Tips Sheet

Thank you for agreeing to be a Way of Love Workshop Leader!

Workshop Purpose: We are meeting in groups - could be large or small - to talk about what a Jesus-shaped life looks like, and to notice all the way that we live this already, and maybe (in a very compassionate way) some ways that we do not.

Workshop Leader's Role: Each week your group will explore one of the seven words of the Way of Love. Your role is to guide your group through the process of discussion, reflection, self-examination, and, perhaps, slight re-orientation. Your role is more of an encourager and a spiritual director than a teacher. It is not for us to say in what particular way someone should or should not live out each of the words. People can naturally be self-critical, and helping them *see and name* all the ways their life already is Jesus-shaped will be very important.

Group Process

- I. **Pray:** leader's choice
- II. **Introductions** (10 minutes). If your group is smallish have everyone introduce themselves to the whole group. If it is largish, have them introduce themselves to the people at the table.
- III. **Introduce the Workshop:** The first session introduce the group as a workshop, and set the expectation that they will be fully participating. It is the church's hope that everyone leave encouraged, enlivened, and excited about the reflection and work they have done each time.
- IV. **Read the Essay for the Week:** Reading is done in silence, individually (5-10 minutes)
- V. **Discuss:** Lead a whole-group discussion on the essay. What did people get out of this? What insights did it bring? (20 minutes or so)
- VI. **Reflection Questions:** give people 10-15 minutes to work through the reflection questions in their workbook alone, in silence.
- VII. **Discuss:** Break into pairs or threes to talk about their reflection process (15 minutes). What insights did they have?
- VIII. **Conclusion:** Bring the big group back together for concluding thoughts.
- IX. **Homework:** Continue to think about this word throughout the course of the week. For the ambitious: Make more notes, or even flesh out and write a paragraph or two about what they want that particular word to look like in their lives.
- X. **Pray:** End with prayer