

Learning Community Overview

What is a Learning Community (LC)? An LC is a highly relational and intentional gathering of youth ministry peers. We desire to build and model our lives as effective biblical disciple-makers. We follow Jesus together.

Each Learning Community will take a 4-STEP approach at each gathering (about every 4-6 weeks)...

1. **Share** – we recognize that growth, both personal and professional, requires humble transparency in Christian community. Our LC requires that you seek to trust each other enough to divulge the realities of your heart, life, and ministry.
2. **Train** – We intend to...
 - a. Increase our **C**ompetency as ministry leaders.
 - b. Shape our **C**haracter.
 - c. Understand our ministry **C**ontexts.
 - d. Design a **C**lear strategy for life and ministry.
3. **Evaluate** – We will hold each other accountable to find effective ways to personally implement the training principles in our own lives while equipping others in our local ministry context to do the same.
4. **Pray** – we intend to find ways to move each other toward an increased capacity for effective ministry. So, supporting each other in prayer is a necessary part of a community that truly, open-handedly learns.

A Sample Format for Learning Communities

Suggested Format for a (monthly) Learning Community:

10:00am	Gather and catch up relationally
10:30am	Brief review of the last LC
10:35am	Prayer, Sharing, Accountability (SHARE, PRAY)
11:00am	Training and Discussion (TRAIN)
Noon	Goal-setting (EVALUATE)
12:30	Lunch
2pm	Depart

Our Learning Community Covenant

The purpose of our LC: to create a relational and intentional environment of youth ministry peers so that we might build and model our lives as effective biblical disciple-makers who follow Jesus together.

Frequency: we will commit to meet monthly. When: _____ Where: _____

I agree to pursue the 4-STEPS of my Learning Community: Share, Train, Evaluate, Pray. I will actively and dependably contribute to these functions as an LC member.

Name: _____

Learning Community Meeting Template

MONTH: _____ YEAR: _____

LC SCHEDULE:

10am Gather and catch up relationally
10:30am Brief review of the last LC
10:35am **In Pairs** (with a different person each meeting)
Share Prayer Requests (ministry and personal)
Pray
Report on your implementation of last month's LC material
Report on your "sacred rhythms" (prayer, dependency on Christ, etc.)
11:00am Learning Community Training and Discussion
Noon Goal-setting. Develop and Discuss your personal and ministry goals for this material for the coming month. **Use the questions below** as a beginning guide for your planning process.
Listen to others' ideas in your LC and then craft some plans that will work for you.
12:30pm Lunch
2pm Depart

- "How might you **personally** apply these principles?"

Others' Ideas:

Your Ideas/Plans:

- "How might you transfer these principles to others?"

Others' Ideas:

Your Ideas/Plans:

- "Might you change anything in your ministry programs based on this principle?
How So?"

Others' Ideas:

Your Ideas/Plans:

KEEP THIS SHEET AS A REFERENCE FOR YOUR NEXT MEETING