

Workshop – Lead

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...sharing transformative stories and experiences that model and support our ministries and our communities and equip our lay and clergy leaders and others to live more fully into our baptismal covenant.

Two stories of Moses

1. Exodus 18: 13-26 Jethro – You gonna wear yourself out – the task is too heavy for you and you can't do it alone
2. Numbers 11 – 4-30 People of Israel tired of manna – they want meat! The miss Egypt – the fish, the leeks, the melons, the cucumbers! Moses to God: why lay the burden of these people on me? I didn't give birth to them! Its too heavy to carry alone; God tells Moses to leave the issue of the meat and missing Egypt to him, and God anoints the 70 with the spirit; even two – Eldad and Medad - not even in camp at the time, they still get the spirit.

Then God gives them all stomach cramps from all the quail they eat, and then Miriam and Aaron talk smack about Moses' wife, and God gives Miriam leprosy, and so it is back to business as usual in the wilderness.

Just to be clear, this is the kind of transformation you can expect when God is involved – people will continue to be messy, sinful human beings who are working things out as best they can and clearly need God's help!

Baptismal Covenant and leadership

1. To be a leader in this church is to lead like Jesus – as a servant; in order to lead we must be disciples first, to be a servant, first serving God, then empowering and enabling others to serve – this is leadership development in the church.

- a. Clarity about discipleship - Can we tell the story of what we believe to others? What difference does it make? How do you articulate the connections between those questions and what you do as a faith community?
 - b. Clarity about power and about structures – James and John sitting at Jesus’ right hand – do not lead like the Gentiles do; worldly power rather than the kingdom of God
 - i. The kingdom of God is about humility, willingness to look foolish and be judged foolish
- 2. You live in the unshakable kingdom of God; the kingdom is not in trouble, and neither are you – what are we here for and what is absolutely necessary and what is gravy?
- 3. Identify the unique particulars - Who is God calling your church to be in THIS moment in THIS place?
- 4. Core values and Behavioral expectations -connecting the behaviors to what we hear and proclaim in worship
 - a. Everyone is doing the best they can – Ephesians 4:1-7
 - i. I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: ⁴there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.[†] But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ’s gift. ⁸Therefore it is said, “When he ascended on high, he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.”
 - b. We don’t do any of this alone – Moses and the 70

- c. Gatekeepers and Clearinghouses vs. Wildflower gardens – how do you lead?
- d. What is essential – prayers, bread, wine, people, forgiveness - people are looking for meaningful work, not busy work; they want to be part of something that matters. Tell them the story of Jesus and why it matters – they are starving for it.

Where do we go from here?

How did we do today? What would have made the workshop better?