

Notes to the Leader for G88 – The Art of Giving

Context

This session was written with our Canvass season in mind. This is an appropriate time to reflect in those things that constitute our main values in life. Is our church a place where those values are affirmed by the community? Is our church a place where I can discuss, practice, rethink my values? Is what I experience in our church, worth of my support in terms of time, energy and money?

Session Preparation

The depth of this session will be enhanced if each member thinks about the topic in advance. Please distribute the preparation sheet at the end of the prior session and make sure absent members receive a copy. Have extra copies available at the gathering for people who have forgotten to bring their copies.

Preliminaries

Prior to beginning the session, take a few minutes to go over the announcements of church events given at the last leader meeting or from a recent church bulletin. Also, remind members of the next meeting date. Get volunteers to light the chalice, read the opening words, lead the Responsive Reading (regular type), and read the closing words.

Discussion

The discussion period is meant to allow group members to go deeper, share things they may have forgotten to share, and exchange ideas. It is important that people not comment on others' sharing except in a very supportive way.

Timekeeping

You may use this timetable as an aid to keep the gathering on track. Note that we've allowed more time than usual for sharing.

Preliminaries	3 minutes
Opening	2 minute
Check-in	15 minutes
Singing	3 minutes
Silence	5 minutes
Sharing/Deep listening	60 minutes
Reading	2 minutes
Discussion	20 minutes
Singing	3 minutes
Closing	3 minutes
Total	approx. 100 minutes

Preparation for the Next Session

Make sure everyone gets a copy of the preparation sheet for the next session.