

Creative Arts – Team Lead Module 1- Discern and Influence the Tone of an Environment to Build Community

We strive to always get better at creating environments where both the church and unchurched feel comfortable and have an authentic opportunity to connect with Jesus. Building a community that everyone feels welcomed and encouraged in is a huge part of that. As leaders, it is our job to discern the tone of an environment and lead in a way that positively influences people and builds community. In this module, you will explore what it looks like to begin influencing an environment to build community.

Core Competency 1

Discern and influence the tone of an environment to build community.

Section 1

Read, Watch, and Reflect

Watch

[Community is Everything](#)

Reflect

- What is one thing that stuck out to you from this article?
- Name a time when someone challenged you to push yourself and do something outside of your comfort zone. What was the outcome?
- The article had a quote that said, "Building and growing a community is so much more about what you put in than what you get out." Do you think this is true? If so, explain.
- How was the community in the green room the last time you served? Were people engaged?

Exercise

Over the next 2 weeks, find a time that you can invite a couple of friends that have never spent very much time with each other to dinner or lunch. This is a unique opportunity for you. All of these people should be people that you think very highly of and enjoy being around. In this situation, you are the only linking factor in their relationship. This puts you in a place of leadership in this conversation. Throughout the meal, try and help guide the conversation. Look for signs that someone might be enjoying themselves, or if they are feeling a little uncomfortable. When you notice those things, being to steer the conversation in a way that will help draw the group closer and build community. After the meal, jot down some notes and/or questions that you ran into and bring them to the next meeting. Also write down the answers to these 2 questions:

- Do you think that the group had fun?
- Were there any awkward/uneasy moments? If so, what did you do to lead the conversation to something positive?

Section 2

Read, Watch, and Reflect

Watch

[Take a Street and Build a Community](#)

Reflect

- What started the community change on Hulbert street? Why did that work?
- What did you notice about the community that people desired?
- What “fences” can you take down in the arts community?
- What are some things you could do in your community here at the Ridge to mimic the community in this video?

Exercise

Think about the last rehearsal you attended, how did you discern the community there? Was anyone left out?

- If yes, what could you have done to help include the person and build community?
- If no, what do you think kept the community together?

The next time you are serving, be aware of anyone who might be feeling left out and try to step up and include that person in a conversation or activity. Write down what you experienced.

Section 3

Read, Watch, and Reflect

Read

Open your bible and read John 8:1-11.

Reflect

- How did Jesus influence the environment to build community?
- What did you notice about the way Jesus reacted to the angry crowd?
- What can you learn and begin to put into practice from this passage?
- What surprises you about how Jesus responds?
- Regardless of the Pharisees, what does this passage say about Jesus priority for the individual?

Exercise

Invite two to three team members who wouldn't normally hang out and take them to coffee. What/why did you discern that they would be a unique group? Your role will be to apply what you've learned and facilitate and foster community. Bring an ice breaker/the story cards. The win would be to have diverse people on the team learning about each other so that while serving, conversation and interaction can become more natural.

- Following the meeting, write down some things that you thought went well, and some things that you thought did not go well.
- Would you do this exercise again? Why or why not?

Next Steps

Meet and Discuss with your leader.