

CORE TEAM *VISION GATHERING*

SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

THE FORMAT

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE **OCTOBER 13TH**
THEN ON THE **1ST MONDAY OF THE MONTH THEREAFTER**.
EXCEPTIONS WILL BE IDENTIFIED IN ADVANCE
SO YOU CAN ADJUST YOUR SCHEDULE.

OCTOBER 13TH WILL BE A...

“TABLE NIGHT” | IN HOMES *

PURPOSE:

BUILD RELATIONSHIPS, STRENGTHEN CULTURE, AND KEEP THE TEAM ALIGNED WITH VISION.

FORMAT:

SHARED MEAL, ACOUSTIC WORSHIP, TESTIMONIES, PRAYER, A VISIONARY MESSAGE.

TONE:

WARM, RELATIONAL, CELEBRATORY—FAMILY-STYLE DISCIPLESHIP AROUND THE TABLE.

“TEACH NIGHT” | AT THE CHURCH

PURPOSE:

EQUIP LEADERS IN THEOLOGY AND DOCTRINE, WITH CLARITY ON HOW NEW CITY INTERPRETS
NUANCED ISSUES.

FORMAT:

TEACHING, Q&A, DISCUSSION.

TONE:

FOCUSED, EQUIPPING, SHARPENING—PREPARING LEADERS TO STAND UNITED IN TRUTH.

* WE'LL TRY THIS AND SEE HOW IT GOES!

THE CONCEPT

1 CORINTHIANS 4:14–17 NLT

I am not writing these things to shame you, but to warn you as my beloved children.

¹⁵ For even if you had ten thousand others to teach you about Christ, you have only one spiritual father.

For I became your father in Christ Jesus when I preached the Good News to you.

¹⁶ So I urge you to imitate me. ¹⁷ That's why I have sent Timothy, **my beloved and faithful child in the Lord.**

He will remind you of how I follow Christ Jesus, just as I teach in all the churches wherever I go.

ROMANS 12:3–8 NIV

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴ For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and **each member belongs to all the others.**

⁶ We have different gifts, **according to the grace given to each of us.** If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; ⁷ if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸ if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; **if it is to lead, do it diligently;** if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

**The Core Team is a more of a process than a position.
It's a process focused on developing spiritual leaders
with New City DNA.**

Genesis 14:14 NKJV

...when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he **armed** his three hundred and eighteen **trained servants** who were **born in his own house**, and went in pursuit as far as Dan.

THE DOWNSIDE OF SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

Church leaders are expected to use their strength and gifting to benefit others who are weaker and troubled, especially when it's inconvenient.	<p>ROMANS 15:1–3 MSG</p> <p>Those of us who are strong and able in the faith need to step in and lend a hand to those who falter, and not just do what is most convenient for us. Strength is for service, not status.</p> <p>² Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, “How can I help?”</p> <p>³ That’s exactly what Jesus did. He didn’t make it easy for himself by avoiding people’s troubles, but waded right in and helped out. “I took on the troubles of the troubled,” is the way Scripture puts it.</p>
Church leaders should expect others, as well as God, to examine their lives and judge them because of what they see.	<p>JAMES 3:1 ESV</p> <p>Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.</p>
Church leaders can’t give themselves permission to lead like those in the world, when it is contrary to the leadership example of Jesus. Servant leadership demands a different attitude.	<p>MARK 10:42–45 ESV</p> <p>...“You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.⁴³ But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant,⁴⁴ and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all.⁵ For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”</p>
Church leaders need to recognize that desire for the affection, loyalty or honor of others comes from a worldly mindset and is a trap from the devil. It will sway how we serve Jesus in this assignment.	<p>1 CORINTHIANS 3:3–5 NIV</p> <p>You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere humans?</p> <p>⁴ For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not mere human beings? ⁵ What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task.</p>
Church leaders must remember that all our ministry efforts will be judged in eternity. Only those things done according to truth, and for the right reasons, will be proven to be eternally valuable. No matter how good it looks in this life, everything else will be exposed as the waste that it truly is.	<p>1 CORINTHIANS 3:10–13 NIV</p> <p>By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care.</p> <p>¹¹ For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹² If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, ¹³ their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person’s work.</p>
Church leaders will not see true spiritual growth in others without welcoming the burden that comes with genuine care.	<p>GALATIANS 4:19–20 NIV</p> <p>My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you, ²⁰ how I wish I could be with you now and change my tone, because I am perplexed about you!</p>
Church leaders are only worth following if they are genuinely surrendered to Jesus.	<p>1 CORINTHIANS 11:1 NIV</p> <p>Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.</p>

THE BLESSING OF SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

The lives of church leaders can help others more clearly see how to follow Jesus.	1 CORINTHIANS 11:1 NIV Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.
Church leaders experience the thrill of watching God's work in us as it is reproduced in the lives of others.	2 CORINTHIANS 8:16–17 NIV Thanks be to God, who put into the heart of Titus the same concern I have for you. ¹⁷ For Titus not only welcomed our appeal , but he is coming to you with much enthusiasm and on his own initiative.
Church leaders are changed by the Spirit of God through the process of pouring into others. They see spiritual change in others, as well, as they give and receive in spiritual relationship.	2 CORINTHIANS 3:1–3 NLT Are we beginning to praise ourselves again? Are we like others, who need to bring you letters of recommendation, or who ask you to write such letters on their behalf? Surely not! ² The only letter of recommendation we need is you yourselves. Your lives are a letter written in our hearts; everyone can read it and recognize our good work among you. ³ Clearly, you are a letter from Christ showing the result of our ministry among you. This “letter” is written not with pen and ink, but with the Spirit of the living God. It is carved not on tablets of stone, but on human hearts.
Church leaders deepen in gratitude and faith as they experience the faithful partnership of others in eternally significant labor.	PHILIPPIANS 1:3–6 NIV I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.
Church leaders experience their greatest joys when those they serve are changed by Jesus.	3 JOHN 4 NIV I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.
Church leaders will receive a heavenly reward when they serve well and produce God-honoring results in their ministry.	1 CORINTHIANS 3:13–14 NIV ...their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. ¹⁴ If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward.
Church leaders deepen in intimacy as they care for others and experience fulfillment as lives are transformed by their labor.	GALATIANS 4:19–20 NIV My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you, ²⁰ how I wish I could be with you now and change my tone, because I am perplexed about you!
Church leaders lead lives that reflect the ministry of Jesus! They experience the thrill of using their own gifting at work, benefiting other lives that would otherwise suffer.	ROMANS 15:1–3 MSG Those of us who are strong and able in the faith need to step in and lend a hand to those who falter, and not just do what is most convenient for us. Strength is for service, not status. ² Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, “How can I help?” ³ That's exactly what Jesus did. He didn't make it easy for himself by avoiding people's troubles, but waded right in and helped out. “I took on the troubles of the troubled,” is the way Scripture puts it.

ROLES OVERVIEW

1. LEARNERS

Devote themselves to growth, culture, and community.

Relational & Character Expectations:

Actively **builds relationships** within the church.

Demonstrates **humility and teachability**.

Communicates openly and responsibly.

Demonstrates **commitment toward healthy attitudes** and **reconciliation**.

Spiritual & Ministry Involvement:

Prioritizes Core Team meetings over alternatives.

Participates in a **small group** & a **ministry team**.

Attends, and engages in, **weekend gatherings** faithfully.

Occasionally attends **UpperRoom** prayer gatherings.

Evaluation Markers:

Shows signs of **alignment with church culture and mission**.

Grows in **teachability, availability and passion**.

Represents our church family well, helping others do the same.

ROLES OVERVIEW

2. PARTNERS

Empty themselves in generosity, leadership, and excellence.

Relational & Character Expectations:

Regularly **connects with, and care for**, those you lead.

Demonstrates **faithfulness**, emotional **maturity**, and **servant leadership**.

Displays **consistency in sacrificial, joyful service**.

Models reliability and **Christ-like character** in daily life.

Spiritual & Ministry Involvement:

Prioritizes Core Team meetings over alternatives.

Participates in a **small group**.

Faithful in **weekend gatherings & UpperRoom**.

Willing to be assigned, or reassigned, to ministry leadership roles.

Demonstrates **leadership** and **excellence** in ministry assignments.

Completes new version of Discover Track within 9 months.

Purchases and study **recommended resources**. (SEE BACK COVER)

Evaluation Markers:

Gives financially to support our shared mission.

Builds trust & respect among other leaders and church members

Increasingly **influences others** spiritually and practically

Shows wisdom in drawing healthy boundaries so effective ministry can happen.

“Partners”

THE INDIVIDUAL TIMBERS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF A SHIP

The strength and configuration of the partners

determine the speed, the flexibility, the capability of the ship.

Most of them are unseen.

They are useless if they are detached.

They come in various size and shapes,

are placed in various locations,

with different forms of attachment

but they are attached –

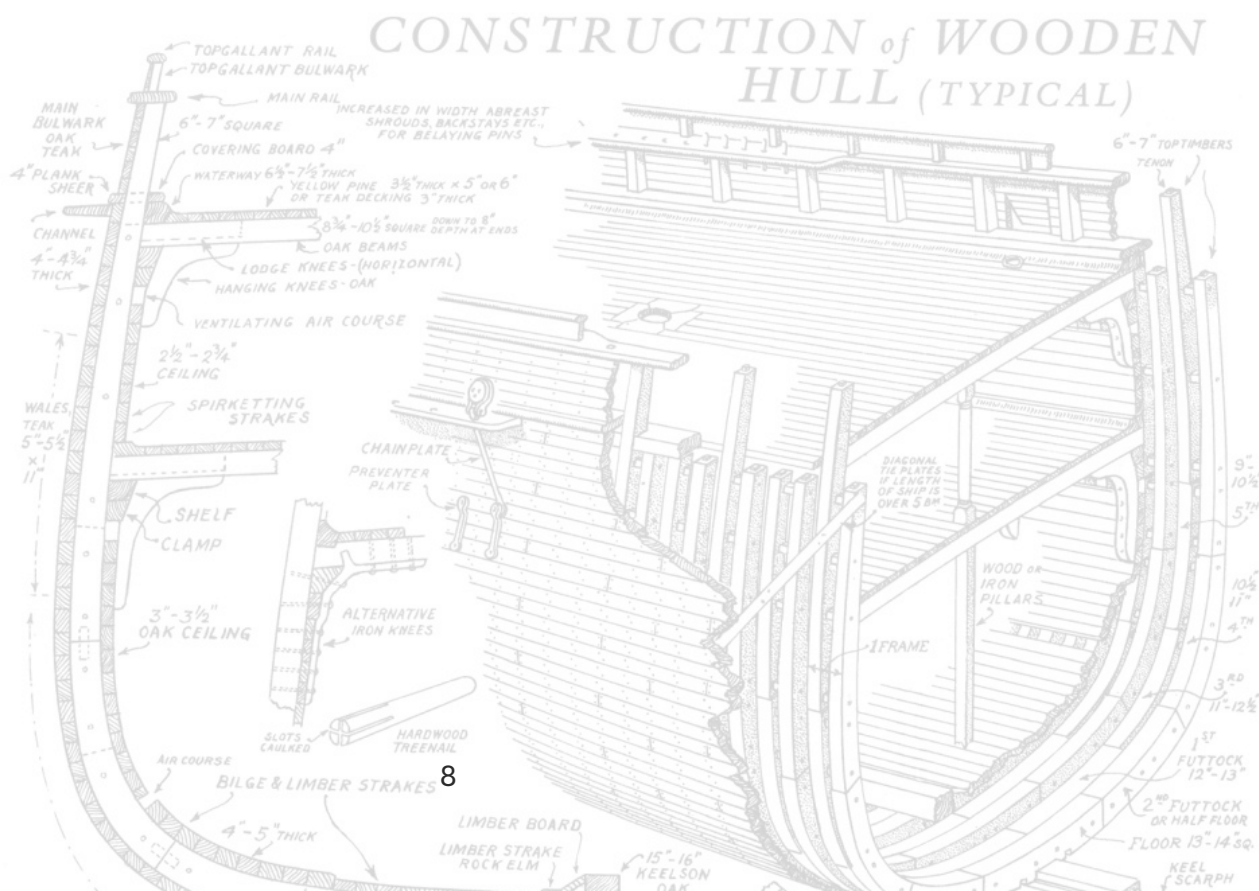
all connected for one shared purpose –

they shape and strengthen the vessel of which they are a part.

The capability of the vessel,

it’s fitness for any given mission,

is determined by the strength and configuration of the partners.



ROLES OVERVIEW

3. BUILDERS

Multiply themselves by equipping others and leading leaders.

Relational & Character Expectations:

Intentionally invests in **developing other leaders**.

Has a proven track record of **leadership, wisdom, and integrity**.

Lives out the values of the church visibly and consistently.

Demonstrates discernment and **alignment with church vision at a high level**.

Shepherds teams, volunteers, and key individuals.

Helps lead Core Team and meetings (may lead breakout discussions, mentor others, etc.).

Spiritual & Ministry Involvement:

Models a lifestyle of prayer, worship, and service.

Leads arenas of ministry, not just individual teams.

Speaks into **church culture, systems, and strategy**.

Represents the church in broader settings as needed (teaching, outreach, collaboration).

Evaluation Markers:

Actively **multiplies leaders** and **equips ministry teams** with resources and structure.

Helps **guard and shape the spiritual tone of the church**.

Is a trusted **voice for strategic and pastoral trust**.

Maintains healthy work life balance by releasing ministry to others.

THE LEAD PASTOR

NUMBERS 27:15–17 NKJV

Then Moses spoke to the LORD, saying:

“Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, **set a man over the congregation**, who may go out before them and go in before them, who may lead them out and bring them in, that the congregation of the LORD **may not be like sheep which have no shepherd.**”

ACTS 15:12–19 NIV

The whole assembly became silent as they listened to Barnabas and Paul telling about the signs and wonders God had done among the Gentiles through them.

¹³When they finished, **James spoke up.**

“Brothers,” he said, “listen to me. ¹⁴Simon has described to us how God first intervened to choose a people for his name from the Gentiles...¹⁹ **“It is my judgment**, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God...”

THE CHIEF MESSENGER

REVELATION 1:1 NIV

The revelation **from Jesus Christ**, which **God gave him** to show **his servants** what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel **to his servant John...**

REVELATION 2:1 NIV

“To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands...”

angel: GREEK / noun. *angelos* : ‘messenger’

DELIVERING THE MESSAGE

TO OFFER THE BEST POSSIBLE SUPPORT,
LEADERS ASK THEMSELVES:

1. Do I **believe** this?
2. Could I **teach** this?
3. If everyone *lived this* as well as me, **would our church be better or worse?**
4. Do I consider this as relevant as he does?
5. Could I **help someone understand** this better?
6. Could I **help someone live** this better?
7. **What could I do with this** in my arenas of influence?
8. If I see the value of this, **have I expressed it?**

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES | FOR PARTNERS AND BUILDERS

BUILDING CHURCHES THAT LAST
DICK IVERSON WITH LARRY ASPLUND



THE MASTER PLAN OF EVANGELISM
ROBERT E. COLEMAN



'KINGDOM LIVING' 88 DAY DEVOTIONAL
JAY ZINN

