



## Faith Journey Program Guidelines

for

Missions, Small Churches, Churches in Transition

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## Overview

The *Faith Journey Program Guidelines for Missions, Small Churches, and Churches in Transition* provides the guidelines for a Faith Encouragement Ministries program for churches who are not candidates for a traditional Faith Alive or full weekend Faith Journey program. The program will be delivered by a Faith Encouragement Ministries Coordinator and three or four additional team members.

## Goal

The goal is to provide a multigenerational program that includes the entire congregation. The assumption is that the congregation may include families with one or two children and/or one or two teens in addition to adults.

## Approach

### Saturday Noon/Afternoon

The program begins on Saturday with lunch for all. After lunch, the group splits into two programs. One program is for adults and older teens; and the other, for adults and children. If there are no children or teens who attend the church or who will be in attendance at the weekend, then only the adult program would be provided. Be sure to check with grandparents before declaring no children or teens will be in attendance!

The first program, led by two team members, will focus on the handout, *Deep Words of Deep Trust*, a reflection on Psalm 23 based upon the writings of Henri J. M. Nouwen. After the reflection is read, the groups are broken into groups, each one led by a Faith Encouragement team member to answer and reflect on the discussion questions. The two groups come together to share what each group discussed.

The second group, also led by two team members, will focus on a children's program. The adults and teens will participate with the children. The program will focus on *Fruit of the Spirit* activities, led by two of the Faith Encouragement Ministries team members. The activities will include a craft or art and a song with motions that everyone will learn.

The two groups reconvene and hear a faith story that is appropriate for the attendees. The group is divided into prayer team/partners. Each prayer team writes down what

they want to pray for on a sticky note, and then prays. The sticky notes are collected and put on a poster board.

### **Saturday Evening**

Everyone is invited back to church for the evening meal, followed by a program opening with prayer. The adult group will present a short overview of what they did, then those who attended the children's group will present their song with motions. The 'audience' can be invited to participate in the motions with the group presenting the song a second time.

One of the Faith Encouragement Ministries team members will share a faith story that is appropriate for the attendees. The prayers on the poster board are used in prayer. The evening closes with Compline.

### **Sunday Services**

The team members attend the Sunday services with the Coordinator speaking. Team members serve as prayer teams.

### **Mandatory Training: Safeguarding God's Children**

It is critically important that any team member with the Faith Encouragement Ministries programs who works with teens or children at a church has not only completed the mandatory Safeguarding God's Children training but also has provided a record to the National Office of that training. It is highly recommended that all Weekend Coordinators also complete the training. If you have not had the training, it is available online for you through Faith Encouragement Ministries at a nominal cost if your church does not have either a trainer or access to the online training.

## **Commitment from the Church**

### **Registration**

The church registers for the Faith Journey for Missions and Small Churches program. The registration form is available from the Program Office.

## Fees

1. Base Registration Fee..... \$25.00  
*Base Fee is enclosed with the Registration Form*
2. Loose Offering or Donation.....\$ TBD  
*Offering or Donation is sent within 2 weeks after the Program*

Why the new fee structure? We do not want our fees to be the reason a church cannot host a Faith Alive or Faith Journey program for their people. Donations, not registration fees, have always been the primary source for us to be able to “Keep the Shop Running” year after year.

The donation or loose offering is the amount determined by the Church through prayer.

## Committees

The following Committee Chairpersons are the minimum required for the success of the weekend. The responsibilities are similar to those as found in the [Planning Guide](#) (for churches). Note there are two church-wide meals that require careful planning to keep overall costs for the church under control.

- General Chairperson
- Prayer
- Publicity
- Housing
- Food
- Children's/Teen (depending on potential for participation)
- Follow Up

## Sample Schedule

Day	
<i>Time of Day</i>	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Saturday Events</b>
<i>11:00AM - Noon</i>	Team Meeting with Church Team and Leadership
<i>Noon - 12:45 PM</i>	Church-wide Lunch
<i>12:45 - 3:00 PM</i>	Afternoon Program
<i>5:30 - 6:00 PM</i>	Team Meeting with Church Team and Leadership
<i>6:00 - 6:45 PM</i>	Church-wide Meal
<i>6:45 - 8:30 PM</i>	Evening Program
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Sunday Events</b>
<i>Morning</i>	Church services

## Contact Information

### Program Office

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### Faith Encouragement Ministries Website

<http://faithencourage.org>