



## Note to Facilitators:

Thank you for agreeing to lead your Session through the “Becoming a Flourishing Church” process over the next six months. Your leadership role is an important one both in the technical sense and in the spiritual sense. You are welcome to have more than one facilitator, if you prefer to work with others in this role.

Technically, you will be in charge of details: scheduling, preparation, communication, staying focused on the agenda, staying on schedule, and encouraging each person to do the assigned homework.

Spiritually, you are helping to create an atmosphere where your team makes space for God. Your goal as a facilitator is to help your team listen for God and listen to each other while working your way through the materials provided. In order to be an effective spiritual leader, we suggest that you spend some time in quiet preparation with the Lord. This resource has very intentionally been designed to be transformational and not just informational, so the role of the Holy Spirit is vital in this endeavor.

## Before you begin “Becoming a Flourishing Church”:

1. Introduce the resource to your team via your enthusiastic personal explanation of it and hand out the Guidebooks to each leader.
2. Decide when is the best time for your team to do the process together. (You will need one hour per session. You will need at least 2 weeks between sessions for homework assignments.)
3. Look at a calendar and decide when you will start and finish your 6 sessions.
4. Register as a church. See registration options on page 4.

## Before each session, you will need to get a few things ready:

1. Prepare yourself spiritually to be open to how the Holy Spirit wants to move amongst your team. Look over the agenda for each session.
2. Prepare the DVD/downloaded video to be viewed by your group. (Please note that Session #3 has no video).
3. Remind leaders to bring their Guidebooks to each session. (Please note: Before Session #5, you will need to make copies of the Church Health Survey for each leader.)
4. Have a whiteboard or flipchart to write down information for the whole group as needed.

## During each session:

1. You will set the tone and the rhythm of your time together. You will provide transitional introductions for each part of the agenda. For example, after each video is completed, you would say something like, “We will now spend some time in silent reflection on what we have just heard before we discuss it together”.
2. You will need to be a good timekeeper so that the session is completed within a one-hour timeframe. You might want to write down your target time for finishing each section so that you do not fall too far behind.
3. You will, in most sessions, need to break the group into triads or small groups. Please pre-plan how you want to do that in ways that will maximize the people in the group mixing with each other.

## After finishing “Becoming a Flourishing Church”:

1. Work with your team and your ECO liaison to plan your next steps in growth.
2. Share your Flourishing Church plan with ECO by emailing it to [kim@eco-pres.org](mailto:kim@eco-pres.org).
3. Keep praying, listening, and growing!

Please know that you are not alone in this endeavor. Should any questions arise, please do not hesitate to contact Lisa Johnson, Director of Lay Leadership Development: [lisa@eco-pres.org](mailto:lisa@eco-pres.org).

Praying for you and your churches,  
**Lisa Johnson & Dana Allin**