



FORMATION SESSION 7:

MAM Value of Love

'Called to be Extensively Useful' refer: btewk.com.au

There are many different approaches to formation as well as stages or phases that participants experience while engaged in formation. The overall goal is to assist leaders to be confident and competent in guiding and directing their ministries. A critical element in effective leadership formation for MAM is to realize that it is beyond theory and focused on the lived experience of mission and ministry. It involves information and understanding of content yet goes beyond this to elicit commitment to lived values... Extract from MAM Leadership Framework.

The principles, which guide mission development, are forward-looking and engage in the three levels of story: the Enduring story of God through Jesus, the Expressive story of Mary Aikenhead and the Evolving story of the Spirit alive in the hearts of those engaged in the service through Mary Aikenhead Ministries. Mission formation is an important and ongoing priority in the context of Mary Aikenhead Education Australia; it is central to who we are and what we do. ... Extract from the MAEA Formation Policy

	Program and Focus	Guide Notes
Welcome Setting the Scene: 5 min	<p>Leader: This session intended as invitational, providing the space to be forward-looking and to reflect on the story you/ we are part of. This is a place of trust.</p> <p>Today we will reflect on the value of <u>Love</u> and the dimension of <u>'Called to be extensively useful.'</u></p>	
Scripture: 10 min	<p>Refer Resource 1 – Scripture. Ideally each participant should have a copy.</p> <p>What insights does this scripture uncover for you? How is this so?</p>	
Heritage and Story – Informing the present and future... 25 min	<p>Leader invites all participants to read the extracts from MAM documents noting that our story and heritage invites us to a leadership where: <i>the unique dignity of each person is recognised, the human spirit is nurtured, and the person and spirit are placed above property and possessions.</i></p> <p>Refer: The Round Table: pages 6, 26 & 29 Click here</p> <p>Leader: 'Called to be Extensively Useful' - This dimension speaks of <i>'a love that calls us to uncomfortableness, that takes us to difficult and unpopular places, our schools joyfully embrace the challenge to be prophetic communities of learning and teaching, creators of new cultures and renewed ways of seeing, being and doing.'</i> Refer: btewk.com.au</p>	Allow 7-10 minutes to read Round Table extracts.

	<p>Resource 2: For Group Discussion: The leader may choose to divide participants into two groups, each group discuss one question and then share their reflections.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>As a leader within Mary Aikenhead Ministries, what does the value of 'LOVE' look like in my MAEA college? How am I/ we called to lead?</i> 2. <i>Our story and heritage call us to 'be extensively useful'. What is our college's 'call to uncomfortableness' at this time? What is mine to do?</i> 	<p>Allow 10 minutes for discussion and then 5 minutes for feedback.</p>
<p>Reflection. 5 min</p>	<p>Resource 3: Invite participants to sit quietly for a couple of minutes: Ponder their reflections, motivations and commitments then conclude with the prayer</p>	

Reference Material:

Bible
Mary Aikenhead Ministries' Vision, Values and Mission
MAM The Round Table
By this Everyone Will Know... <https://www.btewk.com.au/>
Resource 1 - scripture
Resource 2 - group discussion questions.
Resource 3 - final prayer/blessing

Resource 1:

Scripture

Ponder the following three extracts from John:

A)

'I have come that you may have life and have it to the full.' John 10:10

B)

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, Jesus said to them.

"Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord – and you are right, for that is what I am. So, if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you and example, that you also should do as I have done to you."

John 13: 12-15

C)

'No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not understand what his master is doing. But I have called you friends, because everything I have learned from my Father, I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit – fruit that will remain – so that whatever you ask the father in my name, he will give you. This is my commandment to you: Love one another.' John 15: 14-17

What word or phrase resonates with me? How is this so? Share with person next to you, or if group is small and time permits, the whole group.



Resource 2:

For Group Discussion: The leader may choose to divide participants into two groups, each group discuss one question and then share their reflections.

- 1 As a leader within Mary Aikenhead Ministries, what does the value of 'LOVE' look like in my MAEA college? How am I/ we called to lead?**

- 2 Our story and heritage call us to 'be extensively useful'. What is our college's 'call to uncomfortableness' at this time? What is mine to do?**

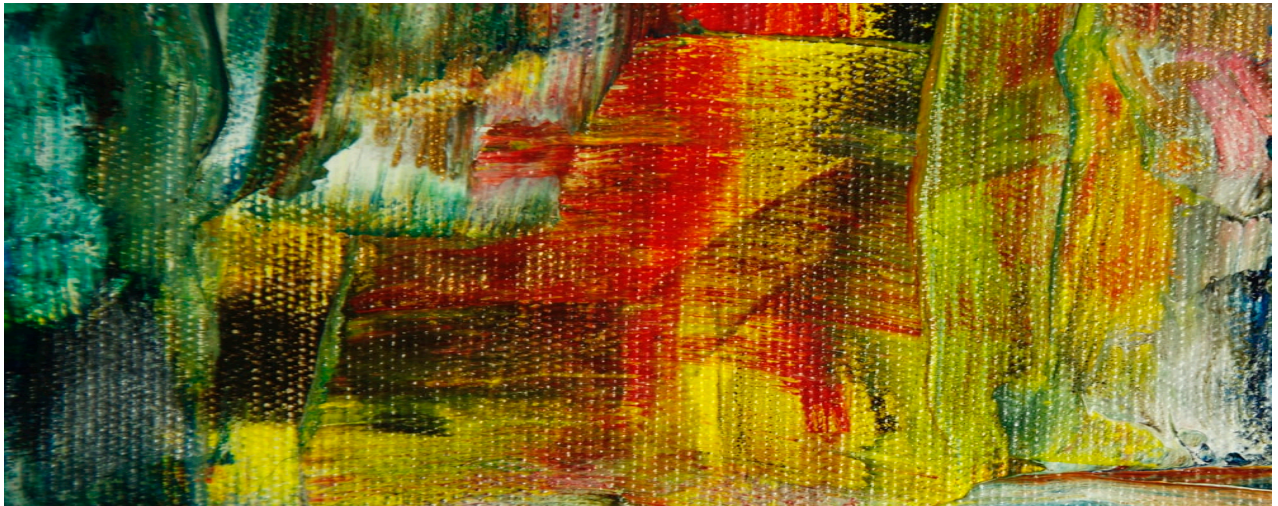


Resource 3:

Concluding Reflection:

In his work, *An Astonishing Secret*, the Irish priest and teacher, Daniel O'Leary, invites readers to stretch thoughts, emotions, and imagination as they widen and deepen a faith experience and understanding of God..

'We are drawn and inspired from a hope-filled future rather than shackled by past failures. Christian faith is a soberly optimistic openness to the mystery lying ahead of us, and to the human capacity to meet and transform even the most dire situations. The Pope urges us 'to live more fully and to feel the worthwhileness of the abundant life on earth', and to start this new way of living now, our stalled hearts need to be reminded of their creative loving power.'



A Blessing...

Within the space of human loving – in the wonder of it, in the strangeness of it, in the completely common rarity of it – may you find healing and your home.

May you have the courage and wisdom to wander beyond what you know - to be certain, to be true, to be real.

May you love.

May you love

May you love.

From '*In the Sanctuary of Women.*' Jan L. Richardson