

W07-Gathering Agenda

GE 103 Online University Skills

Gathering Agenda for Week 07: Disciple Leadership

Gathering Purposes

- Briefly discuss the recent BYU-Pathway Worldwide Devotional
- Review and discuss the story of a student who persevered to complete an education
- Review disciple leadership
- Learn about the benefits of teamwork

Zoom Tips

- When asked to display things on “the board,” you can either [share your screen](#) and write the things on a document or use the [whiteboard](#).
- Review how to use [breakout rooms](#). Use them when dividing the gathering large group into smaller groups.

Min.	Activities		Teaching Tips
Welcome and Devotional			
10	Welcome	The Gathering Assistant (GA) will welcome the group to the gathering, make any announcements, and give a tip from the Gathering Guide. The GA will then turn the rest of the gathering over to the lead student.	
	Introduce	Prepare the class by sharing the purposes of this week’s Gathering, which are listed above.	
	Spiritual Thought, Pray	The lead student or whoever was invited by the lead student gives a brief spiritual thought. The lead student then invites someone from the group to pray.	
	BYU-Pathway Worldwide Devotional	Students were asked to watch the BYU-Pathway Worldwide devotional this week, as contained in the course. They should have done this prior to the gathering. As a class discuss the devotional using the discussion questions provided in the course.	Look up the questions in advance so you are ready.
Student Success			
15	Read and Discuss	<p>Read about Elisha Joseph to see what he did to overcome the challenges he faced as he worked to complete a degree. Then discuss the questions that follow.</p> <p>Click here to share/read the article. If that doesn’t work, you can share the text below called “From Nigeria To Ghana: Immigration for Education.”</p>	

		<p>Discussion Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elisha had to move to a different country to pursue an education. When have you had to sacrifice something now for a goal that was important to you? Elisha decided to do volunteer work for 8 hours a day at a call center because finding a paying job was so difficult. What benefits do you think he got from volunteering this way? Why? Elisha had trouble affording internet, so he did his work at night when buying data was cheap. Even then, the power would sometimes shut off. These are big obstacles that would seriously challenge any online student. What kept him going? What keeps you going? Elisha said, "It was not easy combining 10, 12, and sometimes 15 credits with 8 hours of volunteer work per day, but because of my faith in God...I was able to make the sacrifice." If faith is a principle of action, what do you suppose Elisha did to successfully take up to 15 credits a semester <i>and</i> work 8 hours a day volunteering? You don't have to answer, but what are you are willing to do to finish your online program? How can you involve Heavenly Father? 	
Student Skills Discussion			
15	Share	<p>For one to two minutes, tell the class about one big thing you learned in this week's Student Skills.</p> <p>During our lesson this week, we discussed the strength and power of a group as opposed to a single individual and what your role is in that process.</p> <p>In the book, "The Art of War", the author, Sun Tzu says this about harnessing the power of teams, "...<i>harnessing the power of teams to achieve objectives is a wise use of energy. If you can pull the team together and unite them in a shared vision, the whole is worth more than the sum of its parts. Your team or workgroup is more productive as a collective than it is as individual units.</i>"</p>	<p>Come prepared to share your 1-2 minute introduction.</p> <p>Read this or say it in your own words.</p>
	Discuss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the importance of a shared vision? How do you find that shared vision? The quote we read says a team is worth more than the sum of its parts. Do you agree? Why or why not? <p>Elder. Uchtdorf sees the same power in working as a team. He said, "When we stand close together and lift</p>	

	Write and Discuss	<p>where we stand, when we care more for the glory of the kingdom of God than for our own prestige or pleasure, we can accomplish so much more.”</p> <p>Ask: Can you share an experience from your life in a group or on a team where you became stronger together?</p> <p>Invite a class member to read Mark 10: 42-45</p> <p>Invite the class to write their answers to the writing prompt below. Write for 60-90 seconds. Then discuss the questions that follow.</p> <p>Writing prompt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What differences in leadership do you see in these scriptures? <p>Create two columns on the board. Title one column “Disciple Leadership” and the other “Worldly Leadership”</p> <table><tr><td>Disciple Leadership</td><td>Worldly Leadership</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>Invite the class to share characteristics of both types of leadership. List them under each column.</p> <p>Discussion Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What additional differences in leadership did you write about? Why?• Can you share an example from your own life of either type of leader? When you worked with this leader, how did their actions make you feel?• How does disciple leadership prepare you to be a part of a group?	Disciple Leadership	Worldly Leadership			<p>You decide how you want to do this section. You can focus on one column at a time or you can ask for suggestions for both columns at once. Think about what you want the students to gain from this discussion and what strategy would best support it.</p> <p>You may want to start this discussion by sharing a personal example of a leader in your life, good or bad.</p>
Disciple Leadership	Worldly Leadership						
Student Skills Application							
20	Practice	Demonstrate principles of teamwork with an object lesson (found at the bottom of this document). Have students compare how they are able to do on their own with these activities and how they do when working with others.	Please see the suggested object lesson listed below or create one of your own.				

		What did you learn about the benefits of working together from this activity?	
	Testimony and Prayer	Bear a 30-90 second testimony of the importance of working in groups. Invite the students to look for ways to “lift where they stand” during the upcoming week. End with a prayer by invitation.	

From Nigeria To Ghana: Immigration for Education

Elisha Joseph is willing to do whatever it takes — even move countries — to reach his educational goals

The beginning of Elisha's PathwayConnect journey

Elisha was called to serve a mission in Enugu, Nigeria, where he first heard about BYU-Pathway Worldwide from one of his companions. He realized he could go to law school if he completed his bachelor's degree online through BYU-Pathway's programs. "This insight made me shout for joy," he said. After returning from his mission, Elisha learned that PathwayConnect would soon be available for the first time in Odorkor, Ghana — the nearest location to his home. He immediately enrolled.

Participating in PathwayConnect required many sacrifices for Elisha. Because virtual gatherings weren't available at that time, he chose to relocate to pursue his education.* "I had to move from Nigeria to Ghana," he said. "The exodus was not pleasant, as it unfolded lots of hard times economically."

Gaining new skills and experience through volunteer work

In addition to his coursework, Elisha also spent eight hours a day volunteering. "When I started PathwayConnect, I knew I needed a job, and getting one was very difficult. With no certificate or skills to get a job, I decided to do volunteer work," he explained.

Elisha volunteered as an assistant call center supervisor for the Perpetual Education Fund (PEF), training other call center employees and assisting PEF participants across West Africa over the phone. In exchange for his volunteer work, he was allowed to use an office computer to work on his school assignments.

All of Elisha's sacrifices were made with faith and optimism. "The PathwayConnect program was something I desired ... so I was super excited when it was time for me to start, and I clung on to it with all the energy of my being," he said. "With faith in God, determination, and help from my dear friend [who introduced me to PathwayConnect], I survived my challenges."

Volunteer by day, student by night

Elisha completed PathwayConnect in 2013 and chose to pursue a bachelor's degree in applied management online through BYU-Idaho, supported by BYU-Pathway, which came with its own challenges.

"I spent all my online degree days continuing my volunteer work," he said. "It was not easy combining 10, 12, and sometimes 15 credits with 8 hours of volunteer work per day, but because of my faith in God ... I was able to make the sacrifice."

Finding reliable internet access and electricity were also challenges for Elisha. "It was cheaper buying data at night, so I stayed awake at night to do my assignments and then prepared to go to work in the morning," he said. "Sometimes in the process of doing my assignments, the power would go off."

The rewards of hard work and sacrifice

Although Elisha certainly faced adversity, he never gave up. In fact, his faith was strengthened as he overcame his trials and continued working toward his degree. "I had faith that God would help me achieve my educational goals," he said. "I put in my best, and God took care of the rest."

“Of course, there were days I felt dispirited with my studies, but with the help of fellow course mates and friends, my spirit was energized to continue and persevere until I graduated, despite the challenges I encountered,” Elisha said.

Elisha graduated with his bachelor’s degree in July 2017 and got his first job in November of the same year. Elisha still dreams of becoming a lawyer eventually, but for right now, his goal is to earn a master’s degree in public administration. He is working on starting his own business using his experience and training to manage businesses across Africa.

When he’s not doing schoolwork, Elisha loves playing the piano, singing, and dancing. He also enjoys spending time with family, friends, and other Church members.

Teamwork Object Lesson:

Object Lesson

Show everyone a large tray on which there are 25 everyday items. These can include the following: a comb; a spoon; a bag of crisps; a pin; a wristwatch; a computer disk; a bus ticket; a pencil; an apple; and so on. Leave the tray uncovered for 20 seconds and then cover it up.

Now ask each student to jot down on paper as many items as they can remember from the tray. They may not confer.

Then divide the group into teams of four or five and ask the teams to work together to try and remember as many items on the list as they can.

Reconvene. Ask the groups to compare their individual scores and their team scores.

Variations for Virtual Gatherings- Take a picture ahead of time of a tray of items that you can upload and share on your computer.