



OVERFLOW

WEEK 9

LEARN ABOUT THE PEOPLE AND PLACES THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO EACH OTHER

🕒 10-15 Minutes



PURPOSE:



Learn about the people and places that matter the most to each other.

Who are the most important people and places in our lives? As we continue to discover how to best love our neighbors as ourselves, let's think about who we value. For someone to hear, know, and care about the people and places important to us, it communicates valued attention and personal priority. Let's better understand the people and places that are important to each other, so we can carry that attention into building deeper relationships as God's light and salt every day.

This Sunday, let's create a safe space for each other to specifically reflect about which people and places matter to us and why. As we listen, let's not just look for common values with our own stories, but let's listen to understand. Learning to love each other as ourselves more and more means to pay attention to what others value and seek to understand why they hold that value. We will use reflective listening to share back to each other what we're hearing them say. Reflective listening is a way for us to increase our attentiveness by communicating back to someone what we heard them say to confirm we understood them correctly.

SETUP:



Have a slide with today's focus and a timer to know when to finish.

INSTRUCTIONS:

🟡 Organize Members 🟠 Leader Instructs 🟢 Members Practice 🟣 Reflect and Report



1

Have everyone stand up and find a partner to sit next to during this time. Pause to make sure everyone finds a partner.



2

In less than one minute, explain the vision for this time. Emphasize the importance of understanding the people and places that matter the most to each other. You can share a scripture or a personal example to help.



3

Share that we will practice reflective listening by taking time to share back to each other what we heard them say. Instruct the pairs to take 7 minutes to discuss 3 people and 3 places that they deeply value and why.



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4

Pairs take 7 minutes to discuss.



5

Have each partner reflect back to their partner 1 person and 1 place that they mentioned and why that person and place mattered to them.



6

Pairs take 2 minutes to reflect back to each other.



7

Close by sharing this Overflow connection: Understanding the people and places most important to each other prepares us to pay attention to what is important to our neighbors. Have everyone select one of the people they shared was important to them, and encourage them to let that person know how much you value them this week.

LEADERSHIP REFLECTIONS:



What did you observe about the congregation when they shared the people and places they value with each other?



How can reflective listening and other listening strategies be practiced regularly together?