

Coach's Playbook

A Guide to Leading a Huddle



SouthBrook
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

How The Coach's Playbook Can Help You

As a coach, this resource is designed to help you effectively lead those in your huddle to become more like Jesus through practicing the 5S's, and eventually becoming coaches themselves.

In the Huddle Basics and Coaching Tips section PAGE 3

You will find answers to questions about huddles, and some practical tips on how to "coach" those in your group from beginners to multipliers.

In the Teaching Notes for Each Tool section PAGE 14

You will find "teaching notes" for the 5S's, and for some of the tools we use to understand and practice them. These "cliff notes" are designed to aid in explaining each tool in about 4-8 minutes.

In the Additional Helps section PAGE 28

You will find some additional resources and ideas to help you with coaching.

In the Huddle Year-At-A-Glance section PAGE 35

You will find ideas for 52 weeks of huddle meetings. This section contains an entire year's worth of huddle meeting ideas that you can...

- Copy and use "as is."
- Modify to fit your personality and context.
- Use to generate your own ideas.

Happy Coaching!

SECTION 1:

Huddle Basics & Coaching Tips

HERE, YOU WILL FIND INFORMATION ABOUT HUDDLES AND COACHING IN A "QUESTION AND ANSWER" FORMAT.

What is a huddle?

A SouthBrook huddle is a group, led by a coach, devoted to learning to live like Jesus did, and becoming coaches themselves.

Jesus told His followers to, "*Go, make disciples of all nations...*"

Disciple means "learner." A disciple of Jesus is someone who knows Jesus, and who learns to "be" and "do" like Him.

DISCIPLESHIP = 5S JOURNEY

Jesus modeled for us how to "make disciples." He took on the role of a **coach**. He invited twelve friends to follow Him on a journey of learning to be and do like Him. This is the journey of **discipleship**. At SouthBrook, we call this the **5S Journey**. Practicing the 5S's are how we become people who "live like Jesus forever."

When Jesus left Earth, like a NASA Rocket three years later, he left behind eleven guys whose characters and practices looked a heck of a lot like His. Those eleven were able to pass on what they had learned to others, so that they could do the same.

Jesus had trained His "players" to become coaches themselves. And the new coaches trained new coaches.

Doctors have residents. Electricians have apprentices. Jedis have Padawans. Paul had Timothy. "Huddle" is our vehicle for coaches to train new coaches.

How is a huddle the same—and different—from other groups?

At first glance, a huddle may look a bit like other Jesus-centered small groups you've seen.

- They have around 3-10 people, plus the leader.
- The goal is to live like Jesus, specifically through practicing the 5S's.
- They meet regularly, generally once every week or two.
- They are fun!

But there are a few things that distinguish a huddle from some other small groups.

Here are a few:

1. Commitment. Participants are asked to make the regularly scheduled meetings and relationships a priority in their schedules. It's not a "show up when I feel like it" sort of group.

The disciples spent time with Jesus A LOT. Times that seemed more organized, like when He taught them. Times with Him that were part of organic life, like walking down a mountain together, talking. As such, they got to see how He ate and drank. How He treated people with infectious diseases. How He talked to his Father. He was their model.

A coach says, "Let's prioritize this relationship. Let's meet, but also find ways to overlap our lives. And here's how to practice Solitude. Seeing how I do it will help with how you do it, and vice versa."

2. Accountability. Jesus said, "**Anyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice** is like a wise man who built his house on the rock..." Hear and do.

In huddle, we learn to ask and answer two questions, week in and week out:

1. What am I *hearing* from God?

2. What will I *do* about it?

Our huddle meetings become a place to report back on our follow through.

3. Multiplication. A goal of huddle is that participants would eventually become coaches themselves, who multiply the character of Jesus into others.

Training someone to lead a huddle is not the ultimate goal. We want to prepare people to be coaches. Do coaches lead huddles? Sure. But as a wise SouthBrook coach¹ once said, "We're not just training people to lead a huddle for a year or two. We're preparing people for a lifestyle of discipleship for the rest of their lives."

For how long and how often does a huddle meet?

Jesus' earthly "huddle" with His disciples lasted for about three years and they spent loads of time together each week. Some huddles meet for two hours every other week, for a couple of years or more. Some meet every week for a year.

What seems to work best is to meet weekly for about the first year, and every other week the second. That way, if participants are ready to start leading in year two, and are still meeting in a huddle but not as often, the coach can help troubleshoot, so they have more time to start coaching.

There are no hard and fast rules on this. In some cases, it will depend on the life and schedule of the huddle leader. In others, it will depend on participants' readiness, as some will be ready to "leave the nest" and lead before others. The answer is to take as much time as it takes to help participants model the character and practices of Jesus, and to be ready to coach others to do the same.

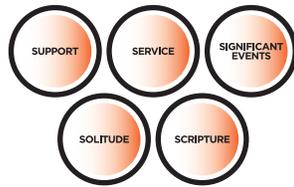
¹Jody Massey, SouthBrook coach

Is there a "curriculum" for huddles?

Not exactly. Not a curriculum...more like a tool box. Or a bag of golf clubs. Different clubs for different situations.

This guide presents two simple tools for each of the 5S's, rooted in Scripture that can be used again and again to help us understand and practice them. Here are the 5S's and the tools that go with each. See section 2 for more on each tool.

THE 5S'S

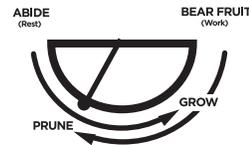


Engaging in these 5 practices is how we learn to "live like Jesus forever."

SOLITUDE

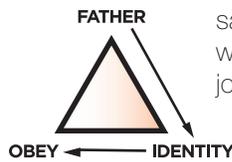
PRAISE
REPENT
ASK
YIELD

This is how Jesus taught us to talk with our heavenly Father in prayer.

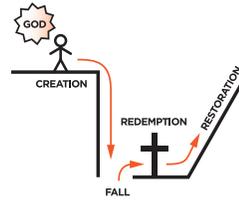


Learning to intentionally rest in God is necessary for our lives to be fruitful and productive.

SCRIPTURE

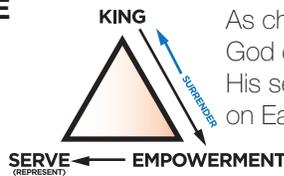


Believing what Scripture says about God, and who we are in Christ drives us to joyful obedience.



Knowing God's story helps us see the world through His eyes, and share His good news with others.

SERVICE

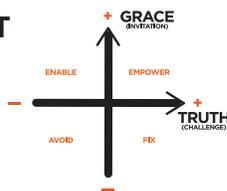


As children of the King, God empowers us to be His servant-representatives on Earth.

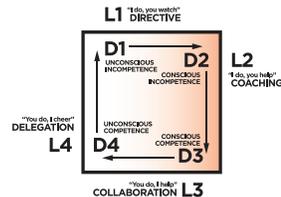


We can be sensitive and purposeful in how we show and tell God's good news of Jesus to others.

SUPPORT

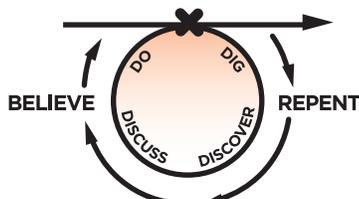


We can emulate the way Jesus encouraged and empowered His followers to live like Him.

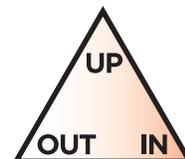


Jesus modeled for us how to coach people we're leading at each stage, as they grow from beginners to multipliers.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS



Through significant events we can learn to hear God and respond.



We can intentionally plan significant events that reflect God's priorities of loving Him and others.

You'll notice the tools are all pictures you could draw on a napkin. We like visuals, right? It's not at all unusual for a family to have more digital devices with screens in the house than family members. We are a visual bunch. Pictures are a great way to help communicate Scriptural truth in a visual way, especially in this screen-saturated age.

- We believe these tools are **effective** in helping us know and live the 5S's like Jesus did.
- We also believe they are **simple** enough that they can be passed on to others, even by those who don't feel naturally gifted at teaching.

Do I have to use all of these tools?

While we believe that the tools presented are simple and effective, if some of them don't work for you, or you know tools that work better, feel free to use other things.

We're not trying to manufacture cookie cutter Christians. God has made us each unique, and as such, we will all lead differently to some degree. It's more important that we pass on to others what we ourselves are modeling.

When you're considering something to pass on to your huddle to help them live like Jesus, and that you hope they pass on as well, there are two questions to help guide you:

- 1. Does this help me live like Jesus?** There are a lot of cool tools and methods out there. Not all of them help us see the world and live like Jesus did.
- 2. Is it memorable?** You may find some material out there that is Scriptural and rich. But if it means completing fourteen steps every time you sit down to read Scripture, chances are participants will not be able to remember it, let alone pass it on to others.

Is there a basic format for a huddle meeting?

A football team huddles. Break!

They run their play. They come back together, evaluate, and decide a new play. Break!

SouthBrook huddles are a bit like that. Each week, coaches help participants take a deeper look at the Significant Events occurring in their lives so they can answer two questions: “What am I hearing from God?” and “What will I do about it?” Break!

Participants leave the meeting with a “play” to run in response to what they think they’re hearing. The coach can start the next meeting by asking, “How did it go?”

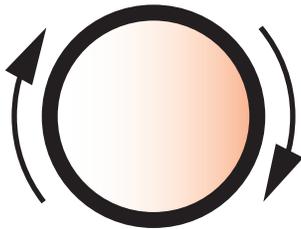
Here’s a simple format that can be used during huddle meetings:

REVIEW



1. Review. Participants report back on how they did at following through on any plans (“plays”) made the previous week for accountability. Try to record their plans so you remember what to ask. This is also a time to review whatever tool/s you are currently working through, to help it “stick” for participants.

2. Significant Event. Have participants identify and share a Significant Event (SE) at which to take a deeper look, reminding them that SE’s can be enormous and life altering, or can just be a moment long. These SE’s can come from prep work you’ve given to complete, something to reflect on during huddle, a weekend message, or life. See the “52 Weeks of Huddles” section for ideas.



3. The Circle. Use the Learning Circle to help them process their Significant Events or moments. Help one or more of them identify what they may be hearing from God, and plan what they are going to do about it. There are multiple ways to do this:

- Go person by person.
- Dig into one person’s moment and invite feedback from others.
- Address an overall theme that has surfaced in the group. Then with ten minutes left, ask each person to identify what they are hearing, and how they will respond this week.

PREP

4. Prep. In addition to any plans people made in huddle, is there anything you would like them to do in preparation for next week? See the “52 Weeks of Huddles” section for ideas.

Who should I invite to my huddle?

A wise question, since we will be opening our lives to these individuals. A simple answer: **RATs.**

No. Not those that live in sewers. We mean people who are **Ready, Available, and Teachable.**

- **Ready**—Someone in whom you see signs of Christ-like character and leadership. Not everyone is at a place in their spiritual journey where they are ready for coaching. They may need to mature a bit, or work through some character issues first.
- **Available**—Someone willing and able to set aside the time necessary for the coaching journey. If a person can only be at two or three, out of every four huddle meetings, now may not be the best time for them to jump in.
- **Teachable**—Someone who is a “person of peace” to you. We use this term from Luke 10 to describe someone who likes you, is open to learning from you, and even serves you.

Some people worry about chemistry among participants when asking people to join, and often think, “*Will my participants get along?*”

In some cases, this may give us pause. If two people you are thinking of asking got in a fist fight last week, you may want to think twice about inviting both at this time.

But a common purpose can bond people who normally would not hang out together. Jesus invited fishermen, a tax collector, a revolutionary and others—guys that would not normally have hung out together—to follow Him. They had arguments. They clashed about who was the best disciple. But they were united in learning to be like Jesus, and building God’s kingdom.

In Christ, we are made one family by His blood. In a huddle, we are united in the pursuit of multiplying disciples. These are enough to bring participants together. One SouthBrook huddle is made up primarily of Young Adults, 30 and under. One of the participants is 80. Because of the common purpose, they have grown to love one another, and wouldn’t have it any other way.

How do I invite people to join my huddle?

Jesus drafted twelve guys to His team.

Although SouthBrook may keep a running list of people interested in being in a huddle, we're not generally going to assign people to huddles. The coach gets to do the asking.

*"Come follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."
—Matthew 4:19*

Notice how Jesus communicated both invitation, and challenge to Peter and Andrew. "Come walk with me through life. Know that it will mean a significant change in lifestyle."

Like Jesus, it's important to offer clear invitation and challenge to those we ask to join our huddles.

- The **Invitation** is to intentional relationship. It means saying, "Hey, we will meet weekly at this time, but let's also be in each other's lives beyond the meeting." This "access" we grant to our lives gives people a living model of following Jesus, and builds a bridge for vulnerability and challenge. It's important to recognize that the goal is not to add a whole bunch of new activities with huddles to our lives, but rather to invite one another into meals, serving, Facebook, shopping, kids' sports, Netflix, or other things you're already doing.
- The **Challenge** is to a high level of commitment and multiplication. Unless my 11-year old is sick, his soccer coach expects him to be at practice. Likewise, you challenge the people in your huddle to put a placeholder on their calendar for meetings, and plan around them. It's crucial for them to know that a goal of huddle is for them to **become a coach** as well.

Some of us have had THIS experience: "Hey, can I tell you about this product I'm selling? It will just take ten minutes!" You politely say yes—and an hour later the salesperson is still yammering, even though at four minutes into it, you settled on "not interested." Not what you signed up for.

Offering clear invitation and challenge respectfully, informs people about what it is to which they will be saying, "yes" or "no."

When inviting people to be in a huddle, try to ask each person individually rather than blasting to all with a group email or making an announcement to a crowd. This helps communicate to each one why their involvement is valued. It also helps ensure that you have been clear, as each person has the opportunity to ask clarifying questions.

As a leader, when it comes to the organized "regular meeting time" of huddle, choose a time that works first for you in your rhythm of life, and invite people to join in it. Don't generally first find out which times work best for your invitees and then try to fit them all together.

For my wife and I, Monday is “huddle night” for both of us. If I changed my huddle to Tuesday night to accommodate others, I’d then have to give up my date night with her. No way! Our weekly date night keeps our marriage healthy and models a “marriage worth imitating” to those I lead. If Monday doesn’t work for someone I invite and they really want to do it, maybe they will be able to adjust their schedule to make it work. Or maybe my huddle is simply not the one for them right now.

What about doing Service with my huddle?

Jesus did lots of kingdom Service out there with His disciples. He was already empowering them to tell people about His kingdom and heal sick people after a few short months. He even had them help serve up fish and chips to 5,000+ people.

If you and your huddlers are in a PLAY Group together, you already have an outlet for Service and mission. Just join the normal Service rhythm of your PLAY Group, whatever that is, and use some huddle meetings to process significant moments from those times.

If you’re NOT in a PLAY Group, you may want to consider devoting a huddle meeting every few weeks to joining a Bogg outreach, helping in SouthBrook Kids, or something else. If you’re following the “52 Weeks of Huddles” section closely, you’ll notice that there is a “Coach’s Choice” night about every four weeks, in which you could use a number of those weeks to do Service.

How do I prepare participants to coach others?

Jesus trained His apostles from new followers to multipliers. A helpful tool to prepare others to multiply like Jesus is the Square, developed from Ken Blanchard’s Situational Leadership Model. The Square describes the participants’ journey through the phases they will likely experience over the course of your time together as a huddle (D1-D4), and informs coaches on what kind of leadership is best to offer at each of those phases to help them keep moving forward (L1-L4).

The Square also gives a helpful framework for training participants in coaching. Our huddles can become a safe place for participants to practice leading before they go out and try it on their own.

Below are two skills for which the Square can help prepare people for coaching.

1. TEACHING PEOPLE TO USE THE CIRCLE IN HUDDLE.

The main tool we return to over and over again in huddle is the Circle. With it, we help participants take a deeper look at their Significant Events to discover what God may be saying, and decide what to do in response. Keeping one ear to the Holy Spirit while a person's sharing, listening well, offering Scriptural insight, and asking good questions are skills that take time to learn.

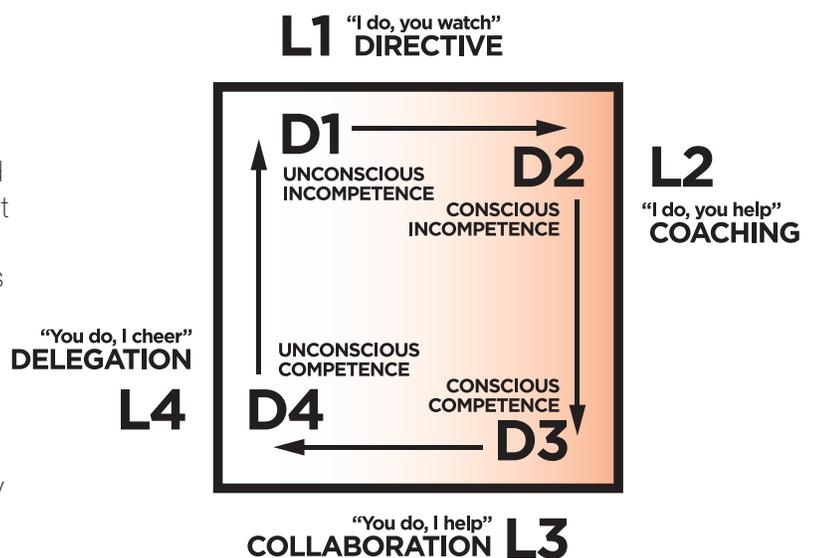
New participants will enter coaching with all sorts of ideas about how to respond when people share significant stuff about their lives.

- **Advice Givers** are just used to laying on the advice. "Here's what you should do."
- **Rabbit Trailers** will jump the track and use what's been shared to launch into their own stories, never to return. "Oh, that reminds me of this time when my family...and Jim ate bad seafood...and we just love butterflies...and can you believe they had four dogs?" DE-RAILED.
- **Eternal Empathizers** will just listen as a person talks on endlessly, but never help them get anywhere.
- **Eager Prophets** do all the work for the person sharing. "I'LL tell you what God is saying to you..."
- **Project Managers** say, "It's my job to get you to hear God and respond, all TONIGHT!" It's great to get all the way around the circle, but sometimes people need more time.

None of these approaches is particularly empowering, but one may be the normal M.O. for someone new to coaching. With the Square, we can help our huddles learn to empower others to grow in hearing and responding to God, so their dependence ends up on HIM, not on their coaches.

Here's a way to do it:

L1: Directive Leadership. "I do, you watch." For the first several huddle meetings, use the Circle to help people process their SE's, and let the others watch me do it. I don't typically invite them to help each other with that yet. I'm by no means an expert, but maybe they'll learn something new as they see how I do it. If spending a lot of time on one person, I may ask the others, "How is what we're talking about impacting you?" But I won't typically say, "Hey, how would you counsel this guy?" Not yet.



L2: Coaching. “I do you help.” For the next several huddle meetings, I help people dig into their SE’s, and I’ll invite others to offer questions and insights as well. If Bryan is on the hot seat, I’ll ask him some questions to help get to the bottom of things, and then turn to the others and say, “As Bryan is working through this, is anything coming to mind to share or ask?”

L3: Consensus. “You do, I help.” A few months in, I’ll start inviting them to take the lead in helping someone else around the circle. I may turn to Matt and say, “Matt, how would you feel about helping the person of your choice dig into their Significant Event?” I’ll offer my own insights afterward, and invite the others to do the same.

L4: Delegation. “You do, I watch (or cheer).” After several months, I’ll invite one of the participants to lead the whole huddle from start to finish. I’ll either sit in as a participant, or skip the meeting and let them give it a go without me being there. I may do this with different participants over the next few months. Works great when I’m headed to Tennessee for vacation.

2. TRAINING PEOPLE TO PASS ON THE 5S TOOLS TO OTHERS.

For some, the most anxiety-inducing part of coaching is the idea of “teaching” others. “I can’t do that!” We’re used to professional Christians being the ones to dole out the spiritual wisdom. Most of us haven’t even been to Bible school.

Then again, neither had the apostle Peter. Being “unschooled and ordinary” as Luke the doctor described, Peter was way more comfortable handling a fishing net than a marker and flip chart. The only training he had came from being with Jesus—and that was all he needed. Peter went on to make lots of disciples, plant churches, and write two letters that are now part of our New Testament.

As God’s servants empowered by Him, our huddles CAN learn to pass things on to others, even if they feel “unschooled and ordinary.” And the Square is a great tool to train them how. Spend a good three weeks on each tool, so participants are immersed in learning and living it before they go try to lead others to do it.

Let’s use **P.R.A.Y.** as an example of something you’re “teaching participants to teach.”

Week 1/L1—Teach the P.R.A.Y. tool. I try to do this in six minutes or less near the beginning. If I initially present a brilliantly crafted and poetic 20-minute mini-sermon, participants may love it—and quietly freak out. “How could I ever do that?!” Conversation will take us deeper, but I try to keep the initial teaching simple so they have something to imitate.

Week 2/L2—Teach P.R.A.Y. again, but ask participants to help fill in some of the blanks. I may ask, “Where is the “Lord’s Prayer” found in scripture? In the P.R.A.Y. acronym, “What does the “P” stand for? How about the “R”? You get the idea.

Week 3/L3—Ask one participant to take a stab at teaching P.R.A.Y., and invite others to give encouragement and feedback. I’ll add my own insights as well. They are welcome to use any notes. Another way is to have participants split up into pairs and teach each other.

L4 is on them. They may teach the tool to their kids, or to huddle participants once they are leading.

If you’re following the guide in the back closely, you’ll notice that it’s set up in the format mentioned above. Additionally, there are teaching notes—or “cheat sheets”—for each of the tools in the next section to help when needed.

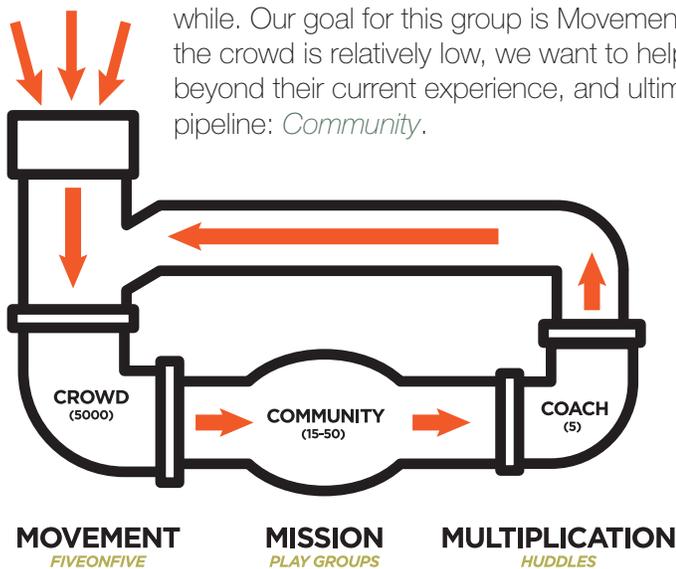
How does coaching fit into the scheme of things at SouthBrook?

SouthBrook's mission is to "help de-churched skeptics live like Jesus Christ forever." Of course, that generally doesn't happen overnight! It's more of a continuum along which we move, as God works in us, "*giving us the desire and power to do what pleases Him*" —*Philippians 2:13*.

Our aim is to help people move along this continuum toward living like Jesus. To achieve this, SouthBrook has a "pipeline" through which we want to help people move as they grow in Christlikeness.

Here it is:

CROWD—People start out here. Our weekend experience is the most usual starting point for the crowd, which includes everyone at SouthBrook, from addicts, to de-churched skeptics, to new Christ-followers, to those who have followed Jesus for a while. Our goal for this group is Movement. While expectation for commitment from the crowd is relatively low, we want to help stir them to engage with God and others beyond their current experience, and ultimately to move to the next portion of the pipeline: *Community*.



A vehicle to engage the crowd outside the walls of the church is our *fiveonfive Challenge*, which helps people try out the 5S's in groups of around five.

COMMUNITY—A sports team, a rescue squad, a military unit. These are all groups that belong to one another, and share a common mission. In Christ, we have the most crucial community on *Mission* of all: We are the community of God on mission with Him to redeem a lost world. This is our identity. The goal

here is for each person to be a part of a "community" on mission.

Our vehicle to accomplish this at SouthBrook is the *PLAY Group*²—roughly 15 to 50 people living out the 5S's in community together. They are Christ-centered communities of belonging. They share a common mission where they put their lives into *PLAY*³ together as the hands and feet of Jesus. As part of a *PLAY Group*, people are now ready for the next step.

COACHING—Coaching is about *Multiplying* people who can be and do like Jesus, and training them to do the same. New coaches make their way up and over through the pipe like Mario and Luigi⁴, looking through the crowd and communities in search of *RATs*⁵ to disciple.

Our vehicle for multiplying coaches is the *Huddle*. Some coaches will also go on to lead *PLAY Groups*. For someone to lead a *PLAY Group*, we ask that they first be in coaching for a period of time as participants. *Huddle* is a primary vehicle used to give ongoing accountability and support to our *PLAY Group* leaders.

²You may have heard these referred to as Missional Communities.

³Putting our lives into *PLAY* means using our Personality, Learnings, Abilities, and Yearnings to work in God's kingdom.

⁴Characters from Nintendo's *Super Mario Brothers*.

⁵See page 8. Of course, coaches are not limited to coaching only people from SouthBrook.

SECTION 2: Teaching Notes For Each Tool

This section contains “cliff notes” for the 5S tools, designed to aid in explaining each one in about 4-8 minutes.

They are in the order in which they appear in the “52 Weeks of Huddles” resource, where three weeks is generally given to learn and practice each tool.

Here is the order of the notes for each tool in this section:

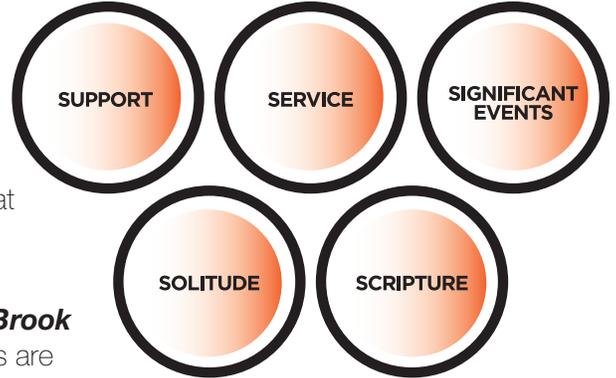
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- 16: P.R.A.Y.
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- 20: Circle
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- 24: Stick Person
- 25: Leadership Square
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5S's

Numbers 2-5 in "52 Weeks of Huddles"

The word in parentheses after each "S" below is that word in Greek. More can be found on this in the Participant Pages.

The 5S's are at the core of everything SouthBrook does as a church. Practicing these five disciplines are how we learn to "live like Jesus forever."



SOLITUDE (Aramos Topos)—Aramos Topos means "place of solitude", which we read about in Mark 1:35. It is where Jesus went to spend time alone with God. To practice solitude, we must learn to create "places" for rest and time with God in our lives, in order for God to pour His grace into us. We must learn to pray as Jesus taught His disciples to pray.

Solitude is how we receive grace.

SCRIPTURE (Logos)—Scripture is God's word, and the primary means given to understand reality as He sees it. Through Scripture, we learn God's story, and who we are in it. We must prioritize the ingestion of Scripture, allowing God's story to inform our view of life and the world.

Scripture is how we learn grace.

SERVICE (Doulos)—In Christ, our lives are not our own. God calls us to give up our own agendas and lay down our lives for our King and others, just as Jesus did. We are God's servants, His representatives, sent by Him to share the good news of His kingdom through word and action. We must regularly practice serving others in all areas of life.

Service is how we give grace.

SUPPORT (Oikos)—Oikos means household. As Christ followers, we make up the household (or family) of God. We are not alone. We have a family to support us, and whom we also support. God calls us to act like a family, prioritizing relationships with one another, and spurring each other on toward Christlikeness.

Support is how we share grace.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS (Kairos)—God works through significant events and moments to speak to us and shape us as Christ-followers. A significant event is a period or moment in time that has an impact on you. We must learn both to process significant events when they occur to make the most of them, and to plan significant events in our lives that align with the priorities of Jesus.

Significant Events are how we experience grace.

PRAY

Numbers 7-9 in “52 Weeks of Huddles”

Try to teach the tool in 4-8 minutes or less to those in your huddle.

Jesus taught His disciples how to talk with their Father in Heaven. We use this simple acronym to help us remember how: P.R.A.Y. Knowing how to talk with God is key to **Solitude**.

Look at Matthew 6:9-13 to see how Jesus taught His disciples to pray.

“This, then, is how you should pray...” Notice, He didn’t say this is what to pray—as though He just wants us to repeat this from rote memory every time—but rather this is how to pray.

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name...” We approach God, our Father who FILLS THE HEAVENS, to **praise** and **thank** Him for who He is and what He has done. As we draw near to our Father, bringing Him into focus, we are reminded of who **we** are in light of who **He** is.

PRAISE

“Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” Repent means to turn, so we now turn our eyes to God as our **King**, and HIS solutions, asking Him to do in us and on Earth like He does in Heaven. Example: Where we see selfishness, sickness, or abuse, we ask God to replace it with His kingdom love, healing and justice.

REPENT

“Give us today our daily bread...” We ask our Father for His **provision**. Whether we need food, a job, or patience, we can ask our Father to provide.

ASK

“And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” We ask for **forgiveness** for our trespasses against God and others, as we also forgive, in order that relationships be restored.

YIELD

“And lead us not into temptation...” Yielding means to let someone go before us and take the lead. We yield our lives in surrender, asking God to be our **guide** and give us **wisdom** for life’s circumstances.

“But deliver us from the evil one.” As we allow God to take the lead, we ask for His **protection** and **deliverance** from unhealthy life patterns, temptation, and spiritual attack.

- We can pray according to this pattern daily, in a general way.
- Or, we can focus on a specific issue, allowing it to pass through each phrase of the Lord’s prayer.

Share a personal example of how or when you pray this way.

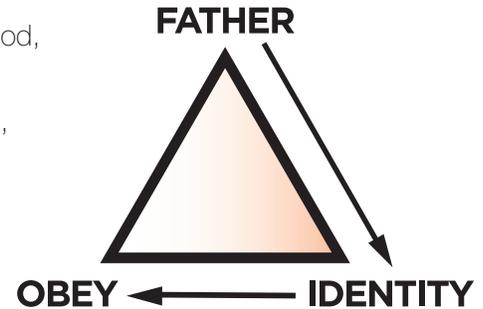
Share how God has worked in your life through praying this way.

Covenant Triangle

Numbers 11-13 in "52 Weeks of Huddles"

A covenant is when two separate parties become one (think of marriage or adoption). When we receive Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we enter a **covenant relationship** with God. God, the Father, **adopts** us, making us part of His family, and gives us a whole new **identity** as His children. (*John 1:12, Galatians 4:4-7, Ephesians 2, Romans 8:15-17*)

- Scripture is the primary means by which we learn who God, our Father, is. **(Father)**
- It's how we learn who WE are and what's now true for us, IN LIGHT of who our Father is. **(Identity)**
- As we are transformed by the truths of who God is and who we are, we understand how we now GET TO LIVE as a result. **(Obedience)**

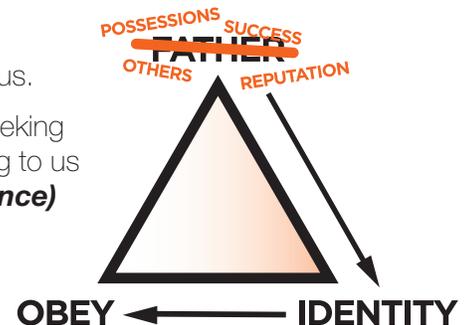


"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." —Ephesians 2:8-10

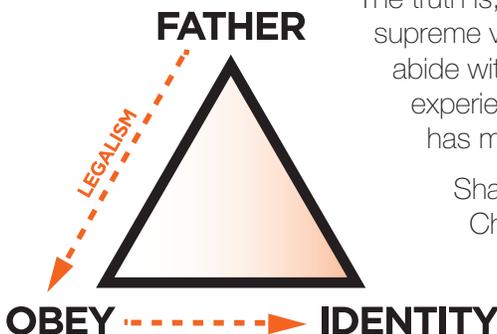
As God's children, we now have access to all God is for us in Jesus.

Our actions always follow what we really believe. Spending time seeking God through the Scriptures renews our minds and beliefs, revealing to us who He is, and who we are. This leads to a changed life. **(Obedience)**

As fallen humans, we will be tempted to find our identity in different sources, allowing them to define our value. This is **idolatry**.



Some are tempted to believe that we have to obey our way into belonging to God. "If I live well today, God will approve of me and love me. If not, He won't." We think it's our works that make us right before God. This is **legalism**.



The truth is, "We are beloved children of the Most High God, with supreme value and worth, just as we are today." The more we abide with our Father in the truths of Scripture, the more we experience the transformation in our beliefs and actions God has made available to us through Jesus.

Share a personal example of how knowing your identity in Christ has changed how you live.

Service Triangle

Numbers 15-17 in "52 Weeks of Huddles"

Jesus told His followers to pray like this:

"Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." —Matthew 6:10.

God wants to bring "Up there down here." And He wants to do it through us. Our model is Jesus. He came representing His Father. *"For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me."* —John 6:38

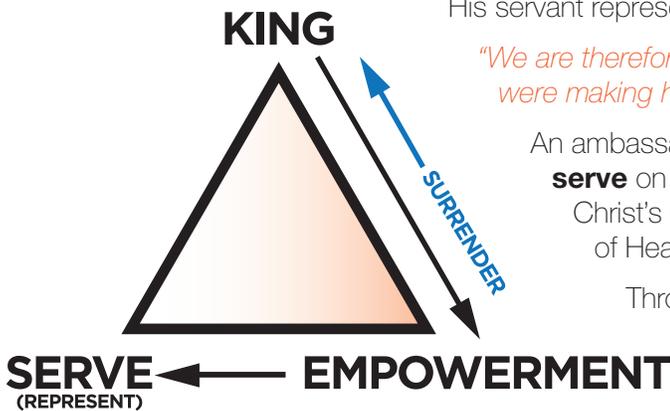
Jesus healed the sick, loved the marginalized, fed the hungry, and taught the truth, because there is no sickness, marginalized, starvation, or falsehood in heaven.

Now, God our King wants to bring heaven to earth through us, His servant representatives.

*"We are therefore Christ's **ambassadors**, as though God were making his appeal through us."* —2 Corinthians 5:20

An ambassador is one **empowered** by their **King** to **serve** on behalf of (**represent**) their nation. We are Christ's ambassadors, and our nation is the kingdom of Heaven.

Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus empowers us to do the things He did. *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses..."* —Acts 1:8.



To be an ambassador, we must **surrender our own agendas, and take up the agenda of our King.**

Jesus took the posture of a **servant**, using His authority and power to serve others rather than for His own gain. He said, *"Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."* —Matthew 20:26-28.

As we surrender our own agendas and take up the King's agenda, God empowers us with His power and authority to serve on His behalf, bringing the realities of His kingdom rule to Earth.

Share a personal example of God working through you or someone else as you offered yourself in service to God.

Grace and Truth (Invitation and Challenge) Matrix

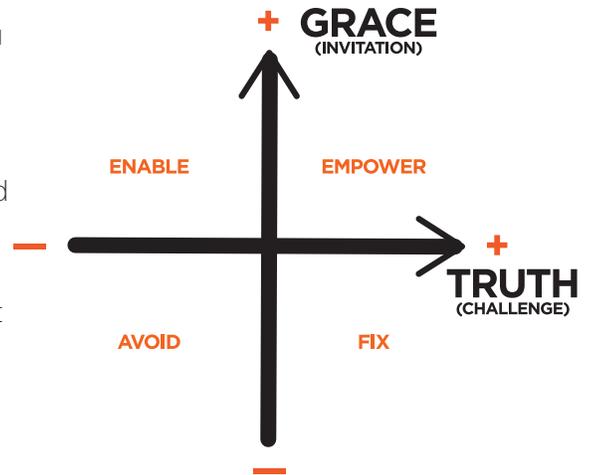
Numbers 19-21 in “52 Weeks of Huddles”

“For the law was given through Moses; **grace** and **truth** came through Jesus Christ.⁶”
—John 1:17

Grace is unearned favor. It communicates, “I love you just as you are.” Grace is invitational; it calls people in to relationship.

Truth is reality according to God. It says, “This is how it is.” Truth is generally **challenging**; it sets a standard and calls people to move.

To live out the “S” of **Support** in relationships with other Christ followers, we must learn to speak and act toward each other with grace *and* truth. Invitation *and* Challenge.



- **Grace without Truth** says, “I love you just as you are...but I won’t challenge you to move toward God’s best.” The relationship is “cozy,” but often *enabling*. It falls short of God’s best. *Share an example of a relationship you’ve had like this.*
- **Truth without Grace** says, “This is how it is. You need to be *fixed*...but I won’t meet you where you are to understand and empathize with you.” Truth without grace can cause stress and discouragement in a relationship. Share an example.
- **No Truth and no Grace** says, “I will *avoid* you. I’m checking out.” It means no beneficial investment in the relationship. It is boring, and/or lifeless. Give an example.
- **Grace and Truth together** says, “I love you right where you are...and I am with you as you take your next step.” Grace and Truth together embodies the character of Jesus, and *empowers* us toward real growth and oneness with one another in Christ.⁷

Notice how Jesus offered grace and truth to a woman caught in sin: “*Then neither do I condemn you,*” Jesus declared. “*Go now and leave your life of sin.*” —John 8. Notice how Jesus offered invitation and challenge to two of His disciples: “*Come, follow me,*” Jesus said, “*and I will send you out to fish for people.*” —Matthew 4:19.

Share an example of a person or group you’ve been a part of that embodies grace and truth.

⁶John 1:17 NIV, Emph. mine

⁷Another great reference for speaking with grace and truth is Ephesians 4:15. “Speaking the truth in love...”

Circle

Numbers 23-25 in "52 Weeks of Huddles"

The Circle is a tool we can use to make the most of **SIGNIFICANT EVENTS** that occur in our lives.

"The time has come," [Jesus] said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" —Mark 1:15

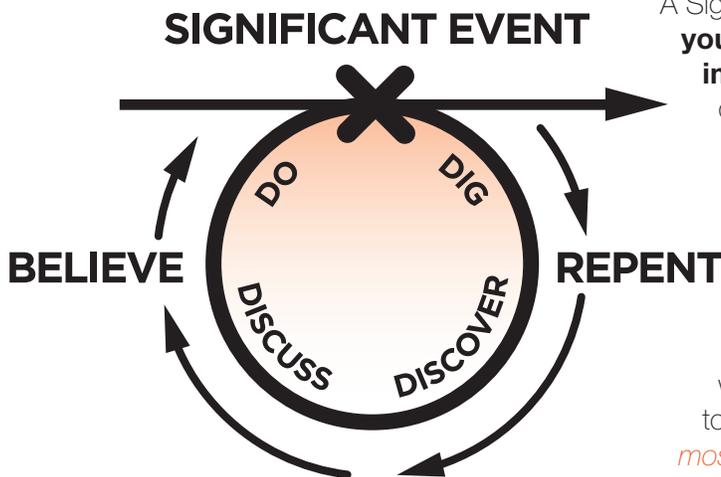
The word for time in the above verse is **kairos**, and means Significant Event or moment in time.

A Significant Event is any moment that **grabs your attention** — an occurrence that **impacts your emotions or will**. They can be huge paradigm shifts or small epiphanies. Examples: death of a loved one; boss praising your work; break up; verse in Scripture jumping out at you; or a movie bringing you to tears.

Share some examples.

We can ignore Significant Events...or we can see them as invitations from God to experience His kingdom. *Make the most of every [Significant Event], because the days are evil.*

—Ephesians 5:16



When a Significant Event occurs we must repent and believe.

- **Repent** means to turn from how **we** think, to hear what **God** thinks. We seek to answer, **"What am I hearing from God?"** God doesn't just want to modify our behavior. He wants to transform us, exposing worldly beliefs and patterns and replacing them with His truth.
- **Believe** means to be persuaded, and is always demonstrated by **action**. We demonstrate we believe what God is saying by answering, **"How will I respond?"**

DIG

What impacted me?

How did I respond?

Why?

What did I feel?

What false or incomplete belief is being revealed that's impacting how I think/act?

We liken this process to digging for treasure, and a Significant Event is the “X” that marks the spot. When a Significant Event/moment occurs...

1. **DIG.** Our reaction to a Significant Event reveals something about us and what we believe. **What is the false or incomplete belief is the event exposing in you?** Dig for the answer.
2. **DISCOVER.** Once you uncover any false or incomplete beliefs, you can ask, “God, what’s the truth you offer to replace what’s false or incomplete? What’s the good news? **What am I hearing?** That’s the treasure. God wants to continually restore and renew us in His image. “Seek until you find.”
3. **DISCUSS.** For accountability, **share with someone what you’re hearing and how you’ll respond.** “What weren’t you doing before that you could do now to demonstrate you believe God?” Make a plan to demonstrate your belief.
4. **DO. Complete your plan.** We demonstrate we believe God by living a transformed life.

Share an example of a significant event you experienced, and how you used the circle to process it.

Semi-Circle

Numbers 31-33 in “52 Weeks of Huddles”

In Dictionary.com, one of the definitions of **SOLITUDE** is “absence of human activity.”

The Semi-Circle reminds us to “stop” and rest in Him, to make space for Him to pour His grace into us.

A semicircle is the shape made by a pendulum as it swings back and forth in rhythm. We must learn to build intentional rhythms of rest and work into our lives.

Read *John 15:1-8* as a group.

John 15 compares our lives in Christ to the life cycle of the branches on a grapevine. The branches **grow** out, then **bear fruit**, then are **pruned** back, and then **rest** until it's time to grow again. Branches that are not pruned back to rest will not produce much fruit.

God designed us to work and be productive. To “bear fruit” for His kingdom. Jesus said, *“This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”* —John 15:8

But for our work to ultimately be significant, **we must learn to take times of rest and Solitude in Him.** (This is what “remaining” or “abiding” means.)

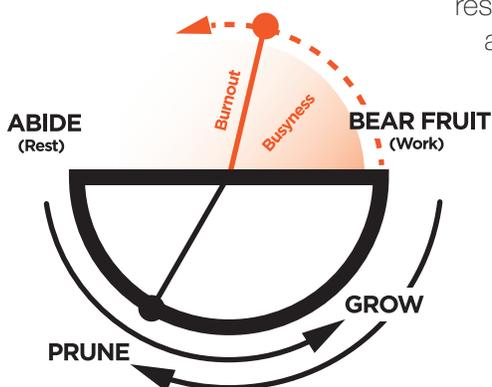
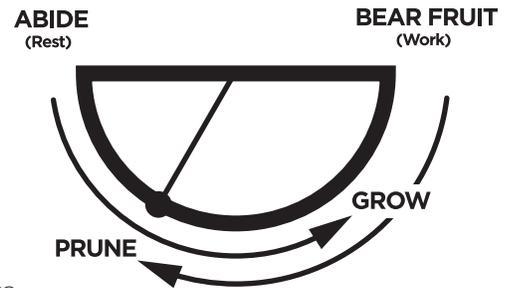
We cannot truly live fruitful Kingdom lives unless we rest/abide in Jesus.

Jesus modeled Solitude...

- **Daily**—He regularly spent time with God in prayer.
- **Weekly**—He took a weekly “Sabbath” day for rest and re-creation. (The 4th Commandment. Sabbath means “cease from working.” God said, “remember the Sabbath and keep it holy”).
- **Seasonally**—He took longer periods of rest and celebration. Examples: Spending 40 days in the desert seeking His Father in Luke 4; retreating in Mark 7:24; and celebrating the Passover.

Give examples of your Daily, Weekly, and Seasonal rhythms of rest/solitude. We must learn to make space for daily, weekly, and seasonal times of rest and abiding, both **physical** and **spiritual**.

When we don't take time to rest, our fruitfulness becomes simply busyness, and will eventually become burnout. Stopping to enjoy God and life opens us to receiving God's grace. It demonstrates to God that we believe He can handle things without us.



Story of God

Numbers 35-37 in “52 Weeks of Huddles”

Scripture tells the Story of God from the beginning and it continues to this very day.

Four distinct movements can be found within God's story: **Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration.**⁸

CREATION: God is the Creator of everything. Time, matter and life—He spoke it all into existence. He created US in His image, for unbroken relationship with Him and others. He gave us life with incredible purpose, to partner with Him in ruling and caring for the Earth. Everything was GOOD. (Genesis 1-2, John 1)

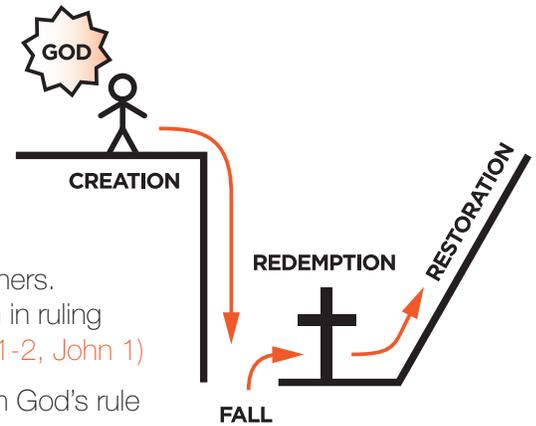
FALL: At Satan's solicitation, humans rebelled, turning from God's rule in our lives (Genesis 3). Our relationship with Him was broken. Humanity's enslavement to sin opened the door to Disease, Decay, Destruction and Death. As humans filled the Earth, so did these, ravaging God's creation. The only just payment for sin is death and separation from a Holy God, and there is nothing humans can do to remedy it. (Romans 3:23, 6:23)

REDEMPTION: Because of His great love, God promised to rescue us from our sin and its effects through the One He would send. Jesus Christ, His Son, entered our brokenness becoming one of us (John 1). He lived in perfect, unbroken relationship with God, calling people to live under God's rule. Jesus offered His own life in place of ours as payment for sin, taking the punishment humanity deserved before God by dying on a cross. He rose from the dead, conquering sin and death. The Kingdom of God is available to everyone now, not by works, but through faith in Jesus.⁹

RESTORATION: Through faith in Jesus we have access again to God, as His dearly loved children. His Holy Spirit comes to live in us to restore us to wholeness in Jesus. The Holy Spirit also empowers us to partner with God in bringing restoration to others and to the world.¹⁰

This is the Good News (the Gospel)! Knowing these 4 parts to the story...

- Helps us understand how God continues to work everyday. We still experience the effects of the FALL in some way every day. But in Christ, God works to redeem and restore.
- Equips us to share His good news with not-yet-Christ-followers. Choosing to believe this message is how a person crosses over from death to life.
- Gives us a language with which to share our own stories of transformation. As Christ followers, we all have a Creation, Fall, Redemption, Restoration story. Our own stories are a powerful tool for speaking the gospel to others, both Christians and non.



⁸Kalinowski, Caesar, The Gospel Primer, 2013 Missio Publishing, China, p50, 58, 99

⁹Ephesians 2:8-10, John 3:16, John 1:12, Romans 5:8, Romans 10:8-9

¹⁰Romans 8:28-29, Philipians 1:6, 2:13, 2 Corinthians 5:20

Stick Person

Numbers 39-41 in “52 Weeks of Huddles”

SERVICE is ultimately about living as the “hands and feet” of Jesus to bring the realities of heaven to earth (God’s love, truth, acceptance, provision, etc.). Part of this service means sharing His love and grace with those who do not know Jesus, inviting them to consider God’s kingdom for themselves.

In Luke 10, Jesus laid out a strategy for His disciples about how to offer the good news to others in a way sensitive to the receiver. Read [Luke 10:1-16](#) as a group.

In these verses, there are at least five principles Jesus gave His disciples:¹¹

1. TEAM (v.1)—Jesus always sent His disciples out in teams. His disciples were all one big team. We also need to have a team we can go with and/or report back to as we go out into the world with Jesus’ good news. Do you have a team?

2. TIME (v.2-4)—It’s Harvest time. Jesus tells them to be aware of the harvest—people who have yet to be “reaped” for eternal life—and to offer peace to those they encounter. We must become aware that NOW is the time to represent Him and serve others. Every encounter is an opportunity to love and bless people. (We are His representatives even at the Kroger check out.)

3. TARGET (v.6-9)—Jesus taught His disciples to be on the lookout for a Person of Peace. A “**Person of Peace**” is a person who on some level is open to Jesus (16). The identifying marks of PoP’s are that they **welcome** you (6-8), listen to you (9), and even **serve** you (7). A helpful question to ask: “Is this person a red, yellow, or green light?”

4. TASK (v.7-9)—Jesus told His disciples to “**stay with**” that Person of Peace, **proclaiming** and **demonstrating** God’s kingdom to them. When we identify a PoP, we need to **make room for them in our lives**, seeking to introduce the idea that God is near, and available to them through Jesus.

5. TROUBLE (v.8-16)—We are bound to find people who are NOT open to Jesus right now. Jesus suggests that we not force it! We can love and pray for God to change his/her heart, but we need to entrust changing people’s minds to God. When we try to take God’s job, we make things worse. We need to release ourselves from the burden of trying to change people—even those we love.

Share an example of a person of peace in your life, and how you’ve responded to them.



¹¹The “5T’s” can be found in the book “*Building a Discipling Culture*” by Mike Breen, in the chapter called “Relational Mission.”

Leadership Square

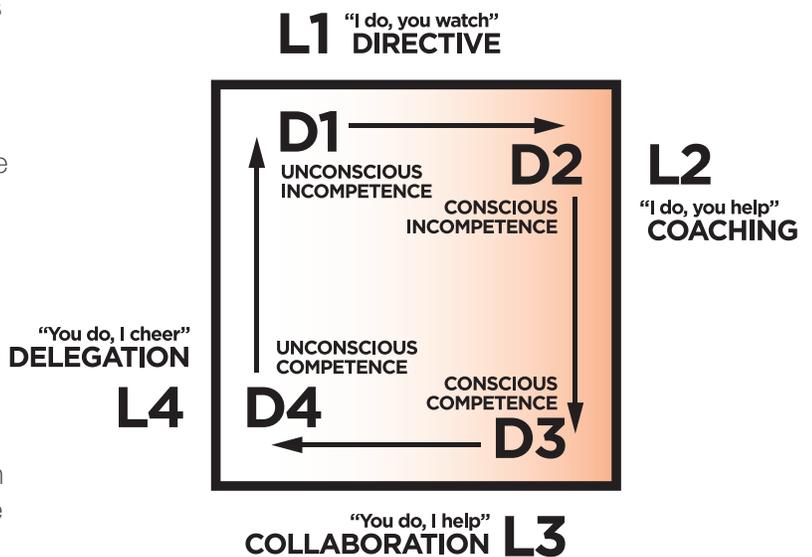
Numbers 43-45 in "52 Weeks of Huddles"

A big part of Support in coaching is learning to pass on to others what we ourselves have learned.

Jesus modeled this. He took an uneducated group of men and in three years taught them to be like Him and do all the things He could do.

He did this by offering different types of leadership at each point on their journey, as the situation demanded.

He sets an example for us to follow when we are teaching virtually any new thing to someone else. The "D" in this model refers to where the Disciple is in the process of learning. It starts with "D1." The "L" refers to the best Leadership style to offer the disciple where they currently are.



D1: Unconscious Incompetence. This is the beginning, "honeymoon" phase. You don't know what you don't know. There may be excitement or nervousness at learning something new.

L1: Directive ("I do, you watch."). To the person in D1, the L1 leader says, "This is where we're going and how." It's not a democracy. They cast vision and set the pace.

"Come follow me and I will send you out to fish for people." —Matthew 4:19

D2: Conscious Incompetence. The honeymoon is over. You now see what you don't know. This phase is marked often times by frustration, fear or failure. Often times, people want to quit.

L2: Coaching ("I do, you help"). A coach needs to offer three things: 1. Time (I'm available to help you through this.) 2. Vision (Remember why you said yes to this in the first place. Trust that God is doing an awesome work in and through you.) 3. Grace (I love you right where you are. It's okay. Remember, God is with you, and so am I.) *Fear not little flock...* —Luke 12:32

D3: Conscious Competence. You're starting to get the hang of it, but still need to think about it. It's not quite second nature yet, but you're definitely starting to experience more success.

L3: Collaboration (You do, I help). The L3 leader entrusts more and more of the work to the learner, discussing and deciding by consensus rather than directing. They're not just followers now, but becoming co-laborers in the work. *Disciples doing the work without Jesus.* —Matthew 17:16

D4: Unconscious Competence. You now know it so well; it's like second nature to you.

L4: Delegation (You do, I cheer). The L4 leader recognizes they've taken the learner as far as they can. They step back, releasing the learner to be the leader. *"Go make disciples..."* —Matthew 28

**It's helpful to share an example of this from your own life, like when you learned to ride a bike.

Triangle¹²

Numbers 49-51 in “52 Weeks of Huddles”

Sometimes Significant Events happen to us. But we can also plan them.

The Triangle reminds us to plan Significant Events that align with the priorities of Jesus. Jesus' priorities are to love God above all else, and love others.

Jesus said, *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: “Love your neighbor as yourself.”* —Matthew 22:37-38

When it came to loving others, Jesus spent significant time with those who believed in Him already. But He also invested heavily in reaching those who did not yet know Him. Jesus' energy went in three directions:

1. **UP**—Toward God.
2. **IN**—Toward those who were His followers already.
3. **OUT**—Toward the world that did not yet know Him.

Read [Luke 6:12-19](#) together.

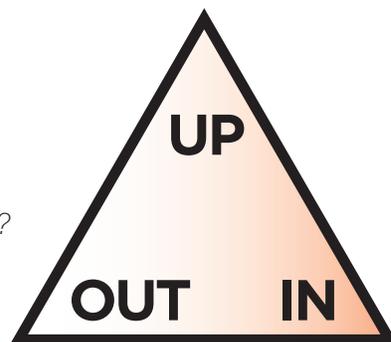
Ask: “Where do you see Jesus prioritizing ‘UP’ in this passage? How about ‘IN’? And ‘OUT’?”

It's important that we plan Significant Events that help us prioritize and grow in these three dimensions.

If we consistently neglect one, we'll be out of balance; missing out on the life Jesus modeled for us.

- Up/In with no Out is a **cozy** life.
- In/Out with no Up is a **powerless** life.
- Up/Out with no In is an **isolated** life.

Share examples of what you can do to live out each dimension. How do you make them priorities in your schedule?



¹²The triangle, covenant triangle, semi-circle, and other key concepts are found in Mike Breen's book *Building a Discipling Culture*.

SECTION 3: Additional Helps

This section offers a few extra resources to help with coaching, including:

- 1. Sample Plans For First Three Huddle Meetings**
- 2. Ideas For “Coach’s Choice” Weeks**
- 3. What To Do After The First “52”**

Sample Plans For First Three Huddle Meetings

Feel free to use these as they are, or just for ideas.

Week 1: Introduction to Huddle

At the beginning of each huddle, it's good to have some informal "organic" hang out time built in that often includes food, provided either by the leader or that you ask your team to bring.

1. Introductions:

- a. Tell your name, and a few things about your life: Married? Kids? Job? Something you like to do when not at work? A movie you've seen lately? Pick something.
- b. Tell about a person who is or was an influential example on your journey with Christ.

2. Your Journey: Share your journey of discipleship for 5-10 minutes using these questions:

- a. When did Jesus first get a hold of you?
- b. Who disciplined (coached) you on your journey?
- c. What three Significant Events helped to catalyze your journey toward being a coach?
- d. What doubts or fears do you have about being a coach yourself? (Vulnerability is very invitational. It gives people access to your life.)

3. Brief Overview of Huddle:

- a. Pray together, then read *Matthew 28:18-20*. We are to make disciples who make disciples, as Jesus commanded. At SouthBrook, we call disciple makers "coaches."
- b. Remind people that your huddle is a "high invitation, high challenge" environment. The invitation is to intentional relationship and access to your life. When are times they can stop by? What are ways they can join in your life? The challenge is to a high level of commitment, and multiplication in God's timing.
- c. Remind them about how long your huddle will last.

4. About Them: Share one thing you're both excited and anxious about entering a huddle journey.

5. Posture: Challenge participants that since the goal is not only to grow in Christlikeness, but to pass practices on to others, we need a posture of engagement. Share how that looks like buying a journal (show it), and taking notes on everything, including how the coach leads. It means making prep work and follow through on plans a priority. Ask, “What will engagement look like for you?”

6. Prep: Have them download the Participants Guide and read Chapter/Section 1 before the next meeting. Ask them to identify what most grabs your attention and come ready to share.

Week 2: Participants Guide (Chapter 1) and The Circle

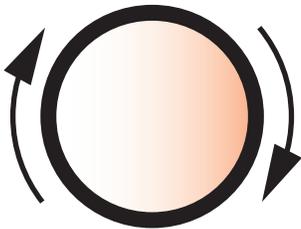
Start with some hang out time and food. As you begin your meeting, ask each person to give a one-minute update on their lives—what they've been up to and how they're doing. Pray together and jump in!

REVIEW



1. Ask participants to give a “1 minute update” on what's going on in their lives. No tools have been shared yet, and no one left with any accountability plans from last week, so there is nothing else yet to review.
2. Teach the Learning Circle. Explain that this is the tool used every week in huddle to process our Significant Events.

**Explain that when you ask for “what most grabbed their attention,” you are asking them to identify a Significant Event (kairos). A Significant Event can be a moment long. Ask each person to share what grabbed their attention from the reading.*



3. Use the Circle to help one or more people process through their Significant Events. **First help identify what they might be hearing from God, and then help make a plan for what they will do about it this week.**

**Not everyone may leave with a plan. That's okay! For those in which you didn't spend much time digging into their Significant Events, ask what's impacting them personally from listening to the others.*

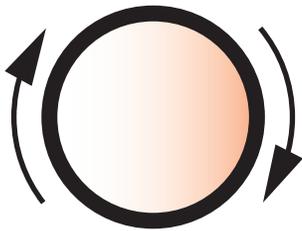
PREP

4. In addition to any plans that have been made, ask all to read the Chapter Two of the Participants Guide on the 5S's. Ask them to identify something impactful from the chapter (a Significant Event), and come ready to share.

Week 3: The 5S's Week 1—"Learn"

As with last week, start with a little organic time, maybe around some food. Pray together to begin.

REVIEW



PREP

1. For the participants who left with plans last week, ask them to share how they follow through on those plans went. Celebrate breakthroughs. Encourage them if they experienced any frustration or battle.

**You may want to explain that generally you'll spend about three weeks on each tool, following the "Learn, Live, Lead" pattern explained on page 34.*

2. Teach the 5S's Tool, the 5 rings. Try to keep it to five minutes or so. Ask each to share a Significant Event they experienced from reading the 5S chapter.
3. Dig into their Significant Event's using the Circle. Dig into which ones are easy and difficult and why. Do any tools, Scripture or stories come to mind to help them process? Help one or more identify what they may hearing from God, and what they plan to do about it.

** Because this is the first week of this tool, you may find yourself spending more time on the right side of the Circle. That's great! Help them hone in more specifically next week on what they're hearing and how to respond.*

4. The prep work for next week, aside from walking out any made plans, is to: "Dive into the S of Scripture and read [Luke 4-8](#). Identify and note ways that Jesus practiced each of the 5S's. Come ready to share what was found."

Ideas for “Coach’s Choice” Weeks

Really, every week is a “Coach’s Choice” week, right? If you’re following the guide closely though, you’ll notice that a free week is built in about every fourth week. This allows you the huddle leader to discern what to bring based on what you’re seeing in your group, or what’s going on in you.

BELOW ARE SOME IDEAS FOR THESE COACH’S CHOICE DAYS.

1. Use SouthBrook’s weekend message, Post Script, or weekly tweets. Have them identify a Significant Event as they consider one of these, and come ready to process and share.

2. Give a passage of Scripture to read. Have them read it until something grabs their attention, and use the Circle to process.

Sometimes we approach the Word just to get through it, not expecting God to meet us there. But the word of God is alive and active (Hebrews 4:12). Using the Circle helps train us to approach Scripture with anticipation that we will meet God there, and to both hear and do.

3. Have each share any Significant Event from their past week/month.

Long distance trips, current news events, conferences and everyday work interactions, can generate all kinds of Significant Events. If your people are married, you could specify a Significant Event from their marriages or families as well. Use the Circle to process.

4. Serve together to share and demonstrate the Good News.

This could mean:

- Serving with an organized group like Bogg or Guest Services.
- Engaging kindly with not-yet Christ-followers at a local restaurant or pub and offering to pray for them if the opportunity or need arises. Pray ahead of time for opportunities!
- Having a cookout and each of you inviting “People of Peace” to join you.

Talk afterwards about the Significant Events you all experienced. Send people home with an assignment to take that Significant Event around the Circle.

5. Use the 4G’s.¹³ The “Four Eternal Truths about God” that can be used to provoke a Significant Event.

God is Great...so I don’t have to be in control.

God is Glorious...so I don’t have to fear others.

God is Good...so I don’t have to look elsewhere for my satisfaction.

God is Gracious...so I don’t have to prove myself.

You can ask, “Which one stands out most from the list? Which are you most struggling to believe right now?” Use their answers as Significant Events and take them around the Circle. This exercise confronts us with what we’re currently embracing as truth about our identity and God’s identity. To understand and believe these truths is to live in God’s shalom (peace).

¹³Quote from Bill Johnson, Pastor of Bethel Church, Redding California

6. Share a Significant Event from your life, and ask them to help you around the Circle with it. This is great for three reasons: 1. It gives them practice using the Circle with someone who will be very gracious. 2. You set the pace for vulnerability in your group, which builds trust. 3. You might learn something!

7. Talk about coaching. If some of your participants have started leading huddles, ask them to share a Significant Event from their leadership. If your people are not yet coaching, ask them to bring one question about coaching to your huddle meeting to process.

8. Join each other in the normal life activities you are already doing.

Go to Bill's Donuts or grab coffee together. If someone's daughter has a championship game on huddle night, go as a huddle to watch it. Is someone in the middle of a big painting project at home? Go as a huddle and help.

9. Pray. Take an hour and just seek God's presence together. After praying, ask people what God is saying.

What to do after the first 52

If you're done using the "52 Weeks of Huddles" and are continuing to meet, here are some ideas of what you could do.

1. Go through a book, book of the Bible, or study resource together.

Read a book that God has used in your life or in one of theirs. Join an all-church study at SouthBrook, or take the 5 on 5 Challenge. Go through a chapter a week of Colossians. When you meet, have participants bring something that grabbed their attention from the reading and take them 'round the Circle.

2. Do anything listed in the "Coach's Choice" section.

You can use these over and over. The assignment may be the same, but the Significant Events of peoples' lives change, so every week is different.

3. Get creative with the 5S's.

You could have them focus on one of the S's or S tool in particular each week. Ask them to track all 5S's through their lives this week and see how they're doing. Or, ask them to invite their families to engage in each of the S's. Same drill: Identify a Significant Event. Come ready to process.

4. Share the specific passion God has given you.

We want to multiply the life and work of Jesus into others.

Everything we pass on needs to be Scriptural...
Some of what we pass on is unique to SouthBrook (i.e. 5S's)...
And still, some of what people "catch" will come through what God has uniquely given to You.

Do you have a passion for orphan care? Handling finances in a godly way? People being "Bible literate"? Building strong marriages? The kindness of God?

The greatest place to teach from is our own transformation, as we simply break off the fruit God has produced in us and give it away.¹⁴ Look for ways to offer the transformation in your own life to others, be it through a resource, your story, or engaging in some kind of action together.



SECTION 4:

Huddle Year-At-A-Glance

This section gives you a 52 week list of “plays you can run” as you lead your huddle. You can...

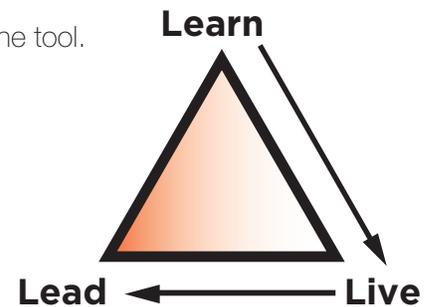
- Copy and use “as is.”
- Modify to fit your personality and context.
- Use to generate your own ideas.

If you follow this path from start to finish, you’ll notice that **three weeks** are spent on each 5S tool:

Week 1: Focused on learning and **understanding** the tool.

Week 2: Focused on applying the tool in one’s **life**.

Week 3: Applying the tool to one’s **leadership**, and learning to pass it on.



Learn. Live. Lead.

We in the church can at times fall into the pattern of presenting a fresh new idea, then moving quickly on to the next one. Three weeks gives participants the opportunity to let things sink in and live out what is being learned.

Discipleship is about *imitation*. If teaching someone a Scriptural principle, see if you can point to your own life as an example. Spending three weeks on a 5S tool allows us to move slowly enough for participants to begin incorporating the principles.

This sets a pattern for consistent living, knowing that God first wants to do IN us, what He will eventually give others THROUGH us.

On the following pages are the 52 Weeks of Huddles.

52 Weeks of Huddles

*SE is an abbreviation for "Significant Event."

#	TOOL/TOPIC	WEEK	DESCRIPTION	FOR PARTICIPANTS TO COMPLETE BEFOREHAND
1	Intro to Huddle	Intro: Week 1	See page 29 for an idea of what you could do with week 1 of huddle.	Pick up or download the huddle Participant Pages.
2	Circle (Processing Significant Events)	Intro: Week 2	Teach the Learning Circle. Use it to help one or more people process what most grabbed their attention from chapter 1. Although it may have been only a moment long, a moment that grabs our attention is a "Significant Event." See page 30 for more details.	Read section 1 of the huddle Participant Pages, and identify what most grabs your attention.
3	5S's: Sequence 1	Week 1: Learn	Explain Learn, Live, Lead. Teach the 5S's tool (L1). Have each share a Significant Event (kairos) from chapter 2. See page 31 as a sample.	Read section 2 of the huddle Participant Pages, the 5S's, and identify what most grabs your attention. Come ready to share.
4	5S's: Sequence 1	Week 2: Live	Teach the 5S's with input from participants (L2). Have each share their experiences from the prep work. What are the regular ways you practice each S? After everyone has shared, have people identify their SE's from the conversation, and use the circle to process.	Practice each S at least once this week. Come ready to share about your experiences.
5	5S's: Sequence 1	Week 3: Lead	Ask a participant to teach the 5S's, and help them as needed (L3). Have them each share their SE's, and take one or more of them around the Circle.	Consider your family, or another group you are currently leading. How are you practicing the 5S's together? How are you modeling how to live out the 5S's? Identify a Significant Event from this exercise.
6	Coach's Choice	Flex	Review the Learning Circle. Consider an idea from pages 32-33 to provoke a Significant Event, and use the Learning Circle to help people discern what God is saying, and what to do about it.	Coach's Choice.
7	Solitude 1: P.R.A.Y.	Week 1: Learn	Teach the Lord's Prayer using the P.R.A.Y. tool (L1). Have each share and process what impacted them (their Significant Event) from the chapter.	Read the P.R.A.Y. section in the Participant Pages. Identify what impacts you most from the chapter. Come ready to share.
8	Solitude 1: P.R.A.Y.	Week 2: Live	Teach the P.R.A.Y. tool again, but with input from the others (L2). Help people process their SE's, but also invite them to help each other with input.	Pray according to the pattern of the Lord's Prayer (P.R.A.Y.) every day this week. Identify a Significant Event from doing this.

#	TOOL/TOPIC	WEEK	DESCRIPTION	FOR PARTICIPANTS TO COMPLETE BEFOREHAND
9	Solitude 1: P.R.A.Y.	Week 3: Lead	Ask someone in your huddle to teach the P.R.A.Y. tool. Ask someone to share a prayer need. As a group, pray for that need by passing it through each phase of the Lord's Prayer. Have them share and process their SE's from this time of prayer.	No prep.
10	Coach's Choice	Flex	Review the Learning Circle. Consider an idea from pages 32-33 to provoke a Significant Event, and use the Learning Circle to help people discern what God is saying, and what to do about it.	Coach's Choice.
11	Scripture 1: Covenant Triangle	Week 1: Learn	Teach the Covenant Triangle (L1). Ask each to share, and help them process an SE from the chapter.	Read the huddle Participant Pages on the Covenant Triangle. Identify what most grabs your attention (SE) and come ready to share.
12	Scripture 1: Covenant Triangle	Week 2: Live	Teach the Covenant Triangle, asking participants to help you fill in the gaps (L2). Ask each to share what they discovered from Ephesians about who God is, who we are, and how we get to live as a result. Share and process what grabs their attention from this exercise.	Read the book of Ephesians. What does Paul write about: Who God is (Father)? Who we are in light of who God is (Identity)? How we are to (get to) live (Obedience)? Identify at least 3 things he says about each.
13	Scripture 1: Covenant Triangle	Week 3: Lead	Have participants pair up and teach the Covenant Triangle to each other. Consider: What false identity, from the world or Satan, are you most often tempted to accept as your true one? With what identity does God want to replace it? How will you respond?	No prep.
14	Coach's Choice	Flex	Review the Learning Circle. Consider an idea from pages 32-33 to provoke a Significant Event, and use the Learning Circle to help people discern what God is saying, and what to do about it.	Coach's Choice.
15	Service 1: Service Triangle	Week 1: Learn	Teach the Service Triangle. Discuss: What are some ways that Jesus served others, and demonstrated what His Father's kingdom is like? Share and process SE's from reading the chapter.	Read the Service Triangle section in the Participants Pages, identify an SE and come ready to share.
16	Service 1: Service Triangle	Week 2: Live	Teach the Service Triangle with input from the others (L2). Have participants score themselves on each corner of the Triangle from 1-10. King —How surrendered are you to the King and His agenda/will? Empowerment —How convinced are you that He has given you the authority and power to serve on His behalf? Serve/Represent —Are you outwardly serving/representing God and others by your actions? Identify and process SE's.	Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-21. What does Paul say about God/Jesus? Who does He say we are now because of Christ? How does he then say we are to live as a result?

#	TOOL/TOPIC	WEEK	DESCRIPTION	FOR PARTICIPANTS TO COMPLETE BEFOREHAND
17	Service 1: Service Triangle	Week 3: Lead	Ask a participant to teach the Service Triangle, and help as needed (L3). Share SE's from taking a kingdom step this week. Use the Circle to help identify what God is saying, and how they'll respond. Invite others to offer insight as well (L2).	Take a "kingdom" step this week. Look for a tangible way to demonstrate to someone that God is near them or loves them through your actions or words. Come with an SE from this.
18	Coach's Choice	Flex	Review the Learning Circle, asking a participant to fill in blanks (L2). Consider an idea from pages 32-33 to provoke a Significant Event, and use the Learning Circle to help people discern what God is saying, and what to do about it.	Coach's Choice.
19	Support 1: Invitation and Challenge (Grace & Truth)	Week 1: Learn	Teach the Grace and Truth (Invitation and Challenge) matrix. Ask participants to share examples of relationships they've experienced in each quadrant. Ask, what is the SE? Use the Circle to help people discern what God is saying.	Read the Invitation and Challenge (Grace and Truth) section in the Participant Pages.
20	Support 1: Invitation and Challenge (Grace & Truth)	Week 2: Live	Teach the Grace and Truth (I/C) matrix with participants filling in blanks (L2). Read Revelation 2:1-17 (Jesus' message to 3 different churches) and see how He offers Invitation and Challenge to each church. Share and process SE's.	Consider: What comes more naturally for you to offer others: Invitation/Grace, or Challenge/Truth? Who do you know that expresses both well? Identify the SE.
21	Support 1: Invitation and Challenge (Grace & Truth)	Week 3: Lead	Ask a participant to teach the Grace and Truth tool (Inv/Chall), or have them pair up and teach each other (L3). Share and process SE's, with participants invited to give input to one another to help them discern what God is saying and how they'll respond (L2).	Consider some people you are currently leading or influencing (family, group, relationship, work). To whom do you need to offer Invitation/Grace? To whom do you need to offer Challenge/Truth? Identify an SE; what's grabbing your attention? Come ready to share.
22	Coach's Choice	Flex	Review the Circle. Consider an idea from pages 32-33 to provoke an SE. Use the Learning Circle to help discern what God is saying, and what to do about it.	Coach's Choice.
23	Significant Events 1: Circle	Week 1: Learn	Since we've been reviewing the Learning Circle for several weeks now, ask a participant to attempt to teach it (L3). Share Significant Events from the chapter, then ask a participant to take the lead in helping another participant walk around the Circle with his/her SE, asking for help as needed. Give your input (L3).	Read the Learning Circle section of the Participant Pages. Identify what most grabs your attention.
24	Significant Events 1: Circle	Week 2: Live	Have participants pair up and teach the Circle, one to the other (L3). Have each person share their Significant Event from the week, what they think God is saying, and their plans. Give feedback and encouragement (L3).	Identify an SE from your life this week. Take it around the Circle on your own, soliciting help as needed. Come ready to share what you think God is saying to you, and how you plan to respond.

#	TOOL/TOPIC	WEEK	DESCRIPTION	FOR PARTICIPANTS TO COMPLETE BEFOREHAND
25	Significant Events 1: Circle	Week 3: Lead	Have participants share how it went this week walking someone else around the Circle. What was the SE for them? Give feedback and encouragement. Celebrate victories and attempts.	Teach the Learning Circle to someone outside of huddle. Ask that person if he/she is willing to share a SE from his/her life with you, and if so, take them around the Circle.
26	Coach's Choice	Flex	Review the Circle. Consider an idea from pages 32-33 to provoke a Significant Event, and use the Learning Circle to help people discern what God is saying, and what to do about it.	Coach's Choice.
27	5S's: Sequence 2	Week 1: Learn	Review the 5S's tool (L2). How did Jesus practice the 5S's in Luke 4-8? Write them on a white board so people can see them. Use the Circle to process what's grabbing their attention.	Dive into the S of Scripture this week and read Luke 4-8. Identify and note ways that Jesus practiced each of the 5S's. Come ready to share what you found.
28	5S's: Sequence 2	Week 2: Live	Have a participant briefly draw the 5S tool. Ask each person to share about their current 5S practices and their Significant Event. Help one or more of them process their Significant Events, inviting input from the others as well (L2).	What are the current, regular ways you practice each S? Rate how you feel about your engagement with each S on a scale from 1-10. Identify a Significant Event from this exercise.
29	5S's: Sequence 2	Week 3: Lead	Have each participant share how they would answer the prep work questions. Then have participants pair up and help one another take their Significant Events all the way around the Circle. Then come together and share how that went.	Consider your family, or another group you are currently leading. How are you practicing the 5S's together? How are you modeling to them how to live out the 5S's? Identify a Significant Event from this exercise.
30	Coach's Choice	Flex	Consider an idea from pages 32-33 to provoke a Significant Event. Ask participants to use the Circle to help one another discern what God is saying, and what to do about it. (L3)	Coach's Choice.
31	Solitude 2: Semi-Circle	Week 1: Learn	Teach the Semi-Circle (L1). Explain that this tool is about intentionally creating space for Solitude, both physical and spiritual, like Jesus did, so that we are working from a place of rest and peace. Have each person share a Significant Event from the chapter.	Read the Semi-Circle chapter in the Participant Pages. Come with an SE from the reading.
32	Solitude 2: Semi-Circle	Week 2: Live	Teach the Semi-Circle with input from participants (L2). Read Exodus 16 together, and explain how God MADE the Israelites gather "bread from heaven" each day and rest each week, and told them to celebrate annual festivals. Share daily, weekly, seasonal rhythms with each other, and process SE's from this exercise.	Consider: When are your daily, weekly, and seasonal times of Solitude (rest, abiding) in God? What is physically restful for you? Does your/your family's pendulum swing in a healthy way? Identify an SE to share.

#	TOOL/TOPIC	WEEK	DESCRIPTION	FOR PARTICIPANTS TO COMPLETE BEFOREHAND
33	Solitude 2: Semi-Circle	Week 3: Lead	Ask a participant to teach the Semi-Circle tool with help from you as needed (L3), OR have them pair up and teach each other. Have participants pair up and help one another process each others' SE's using the Circle. Come back together and have each share what they think God is saying, how they will respond.	When have you experienced a season of rest/abiding? A season of growth? Of fruitfulness and productivity? Of pruning? What kind of season do you think you're in now? Identify an SE from this exercise and come ready to share it.
34	Coach's Choice	Flex	Consider an idea from pages 32-33 to provoke a Significant Event. Ask participants to use the Circle to help one another discern what God is saying, and what to do about it. (L3)	Coach's Choice.
35	Scripture 2: Story of God	Week 1: Learn	Share the 4 movements of the Story of God (Creation, Fall, Redemption, Restoration). Ask participants to share a Significant Event from the reading. Use the Circle to process them.	Read the Story of God section of the Participant Pages. Come ready to share what provokes an SE from the reading.
36	Scripture 2: Story of God	Week 2: Live	Share the SOG tool (L2). Reread Acts 26 together. Explore how Paul experienced the 4 themes: Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration in his story. Then ask participants, "How have YOU experienced these 4 themes? What's your story?" Give them 5 minutes to make notes then take turns sharing. Share and process SE's from this time of sharing.	Read Acts 26 of Paul's testimony before Agrippa. Where in his story do you see the themes of creation (where Paul came from), his experience of the fall (pain/his own fallenness, etc.), how God rescued/ redeemed him through Jesus, and how God is renewing/ restoring him to love and purpose?
37	Scripture 2: Story of God	Week 3: Lead	Ask a participant to teach the Story of God tool, with help from you as needed (L3). Have participants share their Significant Events from writing out their story and/or sharing it with someone else. Use the Learning Circle to discern what God is saying and how to respond.	Share some version of your "gospel story" this week with someone willing to listen. It can be short or long, depending on what the situation calls for. You may want to write it out first, before sharing. Come ready to share a Significant Event from this experience.
38	Coach's Choice	Flex	Ask a participant to lead the entire huddle. You can be there as a participant and help as needed, or bow out and let them figure it out (L3/L4). Consider using an idea from pages 32-33 of this guide to provoke a Significant Event.	Coach's Choice.
39	Service 2: Stick Person	Week 1: Learn	Teach the Stick Person (L1). Ask people to share an SE from the chapter.	Read the section on the Stick Person in the Participant Pages. Identify what provoked a Significant Event for you, and come ready to share it.
40	Service 2: Stick Person	Week 2: Live	Teach the Person of Peace Stick Person with input from participants (L2). Have each share a Significant Event from doing the prep work. Use the Circle to help one another process, discovering what God is saying and deciding how to respond.	Consider the 5 T's in your life. "Do you make the most of opportunities to notice and love people (time)? Who is on your team? Who is a Person of Peace to you (target)? Do you make yourself available to helping them know God is near (task)? Who is NOT open to God now (trouble)? Identify what most grabs your attention.

#	TOOL/TOPIC	WEEK	DESCRIPTION	FOR PARTICIPANTS TO COMPLETE BEFOREHAND
41	Service 2: Stick Person	Week 3: Lead	Briefly draw the Stick Person. Read John 4:1-42. How does Jesus make the most of an opportunity (time)? How does he engage his team? Was the woman a Person of Peace (target)? How did Jesus proclaim and demonstrate the kingdom (task)? Was there any hostility toward the gospel (trouble)? Then, process one another's SE's from the prep.	Have at least a 5-minute conversation with someone you think may be a Person of Peace to you. It doesn't have to be spiritual or deep, but intentional and filled with grace and truth. Come with an SE from the conversation.
42	Coach's Choice	Flex	Ask a participant to lead the entire huddle. You can be there as a participant and help as needed, or bow out and let them figure it out (L3/L4). Consider using an idea from pages 32-33 of this guide to provoke a Significant Event.	Coach's Choice.
43	Support 2: Square	Week 1: Learn	Share the Square (L1), explaining especially how Jesus offered different types of leadership to His disciples as they journeyed with Him. Ask participants to share their Significant Events from the reading. Use the Circle to process.	Read the chapter on the Square in the Participant Pages. Identify what provoked a Significant Event for you, and come ready to share.
44	Support 2: Square	Week 2: Live	Teach the Square with input from participants (L2). Share ways that you have used the Square throughout this huddle process. Share Significant Events from the prep work and process them.	Where in your life currently are you experiencing D1? D2? D3? D4? Where do you think you are currently in the discipleship/huddle process? Come with a Significant Event from this exercise.
45	Support 2: Square	Week 3: Lead	Ask a participant to teach the Square with help from you (L3), OR have them pair up and teach one another. Have each share their Significant Event from the prep work. Ask a participant to take the lead in helping another process his/her SE.	To whom in your life do you need to offer L1 Leadership? L2? L3? L4? Which types of leadership are you most and least comfortable with? Come with an SE from this exercise.
46	**Huddle Leadership	Week 1	Ask each person to share an SE or question they had from reading section 1 of the Leader's Guide. Your participants are likely in D3 by this point, so allow this to just be an open dialogue about leading huddle. Process SE's and how people are feeling, and answer questions as you sense the Holy Spirit directing you.	Pick up or download The Coach's Playbook. Read Section 1: Huddle Basics and Coaching Tips. Identify a Significant Event you experienced during the reading, or come with at least one question you have regarding huddle leadership.
47	**Huddle Leadership	Week 2	Ask each person to share an SE they experienced while making their lists. Use the Circle to process SE's, helping each person identify what they're hearing, and how they will respond.	Consider: If you were to start a huddle in the next 6 weeks who might you invite? Make a list of at least 6 potential People of Peace you might consider inviting. Come with an SE from this exercise.
48	Coach's Choice	Flex	Ask a participant to lead the entire huddle. You can be there as a participant, or bow out and let them figure it out (L3/L4). Consider an idea from pages 32-33 to provoke an SE.	Coach's Choice.

#	TOOL/TOPIC	WEEK	DESCRIPTION	FOR PARTICIPANTS TO COMPLETE BEFOREHAND
49	Significant Events 2: Triangle	Week 1: Learn	Teach the Triangle (Up/In/Out). Share and process SE's from the chapter.	Read the Triangle chapter in the Participant Pages. Identify what provokes an SE and come ready to share.
50	Significant Events 2: Triangle	Week 2: Live	Teach the Triangle with input from the others (L2). Share and process Significant Events from the prep work.	Score yourself from 1-10 on how you prioritize each corner of the Triangle in your life (Up/In/Out). What Significant Event does this generate for you? Come ready to share.
51	Significant Events 2: Triangle	Week 3: Lead	Have a participant teach the Triangle with your help (L3). Explain how with the Triangle, the 5S's come full circle. We engage "Up" Significant Events by planning times of Solitude and Scripture. In and Out events are Support and Service. Share and process Significant Events from the prep work.	Consider something you're leading (your family, a ministry, a group). How do you lead this group in Up? In? Out? What would it look like to lead your group or family forward in one of these areas? Come with an SE from this exercise.
52	Year 1 Review	1 Week	Consider going out to dinner or coffee for this one. Share together some of your most important learnings and SE's from year 1 of huddle.	As you look back at this first year of huddle, what have been the biggest learnings for you? Come ready to share.