

# Refresh, Recharge and Renew Your Faith and Refresh, Recharge and Renew Your Church

## Goal

To plant a seed in congregations to strengthen Christian discipleship through faith renewal. To begin a dialogue in churches to facilitate necessary change for the congregation's continued growth in spiritual life.

## Preparation

- ! During this event you will divide the larger group into four small groups (an "R" group, and "E" group an "N" group and a "U" group). Prepare enough "tickets" with the letters R, E, N, or U printed on them for the participants.
- ! Identify one person to be a recorder/facilitator in each small group.
- ! Make copies of the report sheet for each group.
- ! Prepare four sheets of newsprint to collect ideas from small groups. Label these newsprint sheets: Where, Why, What, and How.

## Focus Scripture

2 Corinthians 5:17

## Opening Hymn

"This Is a Day of New Beginnings"

#417, *The New Century Hymnal*

## Three Questions (10 minutes)

Introduce the three questions in the large group.

1. "**Where** is your faith (church) stagnating, uncertain, or wavering?"
2. "**Why** does faith (your church) need to be refreshed/recharged/renewed?"
3. "**What** can be done to refresh/recharge/renew your faith (church)?"

## Small Groups (30 minutes)

Divide into four small groups (an "R" group, and "E" group an "N" group and a "U" group). Each participant is given a "ticket" with the letter R, E, N, or U printed on it. In small groups participants share stories and ideas answering the three questions. The recorder/facilitator collects ideas on the report sheet to share with the larger group.

## Reports and Discussion (15 minutes)

Gather in the larger group to share reports of discussion. Record ideas on three sheets of newsprint labeled:

**Where**

**Why**

**What**

## Role Playing (10 minutes)

Often it is helpful to address some of the common feelings people have about change which can become obstacles to renewal. Using the large print signs on pp. 2.1.4 - 2.1.9, ask volunteers to respond to or finish the following statements:

1. "I'm tired of the same old . . ."
2. "I don't like all this new stuff . . ."
3. "Too much change!"
4. "In 1958 we had . . ."
5. "It's always the same people . . ."
6. "We never did it that way before!"

## **How Can We Facilitate Renewal of Ministries?** (20 minutes)

Introduce the “How” sheet of newsprint. Ask the question:

“After talking so much about the need for change/renewal, and after identifying the areas where that change needs to happen and what can be done to facilitate it, **how** can we do it? How can we begin this awesome and awe-ful task?

Allow for at least 15 minutes of discussion, writing ideas on the “HOW” sheet. Then, close by offering a suggestion, that in order to properly affect change/renewal, four processes should be used: Ask, Plan, Lead, Evaluate.

**Ask** folks what can be done, what they’d like to see, how the church can help.

**Plan** the implementation of new ideas, programs carefully and prayerfully.

**Lead** the church through the new thought or program with confidence. Believe in it!

**Evaluate** seriously how things went. Do adjustments need to be made? Was it received well or poorly. This is a very important part of the process!!

## **Closing Prayer**

...for guidance, support, courage, grace...

Allow time for participants to add concerns.

Finish with the Prayer of Our Savior – emphasizing “Your will be done...”

Or use a prayer of your own composition.

## **Sending Forth**

Sing the hymn:

“Thuma Mina”

#360, *The New Century Hymnal*

# Refresh, Recharge and Renew Your Faith

and  
Refresh, Recharge and Renew Your Church

Report sheet for group \_\_\_\_\_

| <b>Where</b> is your church stagnating, uncertain, or wavering? | <b>Why</b> does the church need to be refreshed, recharged, and renewed? | <b>What</b> can be done to refresh, recharge, and renew the church? |
|---|--|---|
|   |  |   |

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