

The “Rural Café” Process:

Requirements:

- Comfortable space with tables and chairs to sit 4 people at each.
- Newsprint to cover tables (referred to as “Tablecloths”) & markers.
- A “Scribe” whose job is to note all the answers and try to find the common thread.
- Coffee Tea and cold drinks & snacks – Crock Pot/Pot Luck.
- Worship Services – Opening & Close

Process:

- Four people in a group. One person will be the “recorder” and will facilitate that group.
- Make sure every person gets to tell at least part of their story (as much as they are willing to share).
- This is a “sharing” or “story telling” experience. The person sharing their story is sharing their experience - therefore everyone’s experience is valid. We are to listen; we are not to judge or offer advice.
- The idea is to share your story, not to ask questions and receive one word answers.
- Make it a point to share with people you do not know – spread out !
- Start out with the questions: (Record the answers on the tablecloth)
 - Where are you from?
 - What questions do we need to ask?
 - What gifts do you bring to your wider community? To the wider church? To the world?
 - What needs to change in your situation to enhance your ability to use your gifts?
 - What do you need to leave behind?
 - What Story can you tell of “Hope in Action” in response to the loss?
 - Discerning God’s call for your/our church today? What is God calling us to be and to do?
- After 15 – 20 minutes have 3 of the four go to 3 other tables. The one who stays starts the next conversation with summarizing the previous group’s responses. Work with the same questions and record the answers on the paper tablecloth.
- Pick out the common thread from the “tablecloth” answers and develop the next question from the common thread.
- Do it all over again, trying to find people you have not talked to yet.

- The more people you talk to the better - as the Holy Spirit works through us by defining our thoughts better which helps to see the common thread more clearly. As the process moves forward you will find that you are starting to talk about the next question and you have not yet seen the next question.

World Café
“Coffee Shop Talk”

- Does your community have a situation you would like to talk about with a bunch of your neighbours?
- Is your church and your neighbouring churches facing the same difficulties and you'd like to see if there are any answers?
- Like to explore where the Holy Spirit will lead you?