

January 16, 2018

Preparing for NOOHRA Workshop #2  
at 11 a.m. on Sunday, January 21, 2018

Hello Dear Friend,

Thank you so much for a wonderful first session of Noohra! It was great to see so many people join in the discussion on identity- sharing about themselves and their views of God. I hope that the workshop is not an end product, but instead a spark that encourages us all to connect even more deeply with our community. Thank you for all the wonderful and helpful feedback! I'll be compiling general insights and sharing them (anonymously) later in the workshop.



noohra

JANUARY 14, 21, 28, &  
FEBRUARY 4  
11:00AM-1:00PM

We are moving into Week 2 - Belonging. This week is really about understanding what our place is: what is my place in this community as an individual? And, what is the place of our Church in our community, in our country, in the world, in Christianity? What I love about this week is it focuses on each individual's unique strengths as gifts to contribute to our faith community. It's not about being different from one another- but how our differences allow us to create a full and dynamic community. Far from being separate, brought together, so many different strengths become united as one. If you felt a little pigeon-holed by the MBTI last week, I think you'll appreciate the wider spectrum this exercise offers.

**Here's what you need to know for Week 2:**

**Theme:** BELONGING - *What is my place? + What is the church?*

**Scripture:** *Corinthians 14:26 (NRSV)* What should you do then, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each person has a vital role because each has gifts. One person might have a song, another a lesson to teach, still another a revelation from God. One person might speak in an unknown language, another will offer the interpretation, but all of this should be done to strengthen the life and faith of the community.

**Overview:** This week we'll be talking about how each of our unique strengths help us to contribute fully to our community of faith. We'll also be discussing the characteristics, programs, roles, and responsibilities that makeup a church, and what it means to be an "emerging church" during a time of growth and change.

**PLEASE DO AHEAD OF TIME:**

Please take the time to take this quiz and learn more about your top 5 strengths. As I noted in the workshop, the "Official" version is part of the [Gallup StrengthsFinder](#) (choose "Top 5 Clifton Strengths Access" for \$19.99). But if you're not up for the \$20 price tag, no worries, there is a knockoff [Free version](#) (you'll be asked to connect through FaceBook, LinkedIn, or email in order to access the test). Use whichever you feel more comfortable with.

My top 5 are: Futuristic, Activator, Connectedness, Strategic, and Individualization (These words will make way more sense at the workshop...)

**IF YOU'D LIKE TO STUDY UP BEFORE SUNDAY:**

Richard Rohr and his Center for Action and Contemplation did a wonderful series of meditations on the [Emerging Church](#) (be sure to read the full meditation for each day by clicking on the Day of the week at the end of each two sentence summary).

**IF YOU CAN'T BE THERE THIS WEEK:**

If you're unable to make it to this week's workshop, please take the quiz anyway and send me an email letting me know your top 5 strengths I so we can get as accurate a representation as possible. And make sure to check out the meditations listed above.

*Thank you so much for making the commitment to this community and participating in Noohra.*

*We'll see you Sunday!*

Warmly,  
Ava