

WEEK 9: Leadership at The Table / CONFIRMATION / MEMBERSHIP / WHAT NOW

- Mutual submission and empowerment, not control and coercion
 - Top/Down vs Flat
 - Center/Out
 - Difference between “flat/no” leadership and mutual submission. (center out vs top down or bottom up)
- Women and men together
 - Beginnings and Endings
 - Patriarchy, Consumerism - Mars, Mammon
- We lead by owning our *own* kairoses and opening space for others to own theirs.
 - Easy to see other persons kairoses
 - “They’re doing it wrong”
 - “That’s not how it’s supposed to be done”
 - “Idiots”
- We lead with non-anxious presence, non-coercive posture, trusting God is present and at work.

CONFIRMATION

- In some sense confirmation IS membership in our Diocese and Church (of which The Table is a part), so there should be some coherence there.

MEMBERSHIP

Covenantal commitments we make to each other

Having put my trust in Christ alone as my Savior and Lord, and being in agreement with the Vision and Practices of this church, I believe I have been led by God to join this church family. By God’s grace and the Holy Spirit’s power, I commit to the following:

With God’s help, I will share in the life and mission of The Table by:

1. Actively participating in the Vision, Mission, and Practices of The Table;
2. Praying for its growth and health, its people and leaders;
3. Giving generously to The Table to participate in her life and mission;
4. Following godly leadership, submitting to their care and correction;
5. Resolving conflict and pursuing reconciliation with others;
6. Participating in weekly worship gatherings and receiving Holy Eucharist;
7. Practicing daily prayer and reading of Holy Scripture;
8. Practicing community life and embodied witness with others;
9. Participating in ongoing catechesis, learning, and discipleship; and
10. Actively serving and/or leading teams, groups, or ministries at The Table.

A note on Generosity / giving

11. Sharing resources for the life and mission of our church community (including freeing called/gifted persons to spend the time they need to lead, pastor, and facilitate our life and mission together)
12. 2 Cor 9 - "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work... You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."
13. So we don't preach "tithing" as a blunt expectation or matter of "obedience," per se... but for most people nowadays it's a good goal to shoot for in your generosity... some people can give more than 10% - others less. What's more important is that you cheerfully give whatever you've decided to give.
14. Paul links the giving of money/resources to the overflowing of praise and thanksgiving to God - our finances are connected to our spiritual life together.
15. Membership means prayerfully considering how much you'd like to give, deciding how much to give, and then being consistent in giving (setting up a monthly gift online is the easiest way).

STRUCTURE

- 3-fold order of ministry (goes back a long way!) - Bishop / Priest / Deacon
 - Bishop - at their best, like an apostle, not a bureaucrat.
 - Priest - Word and sacraments in the local congregation
 - Deacon - assisting in leadership locally, also among the poor/marginalized.
- Vestry - "leadership council" to oversee and administer various aspects of our life and mission together.
- Co-Pastors - As many people in the center that can handle it
 - "God will let as many people into heaven as can handle it"