

GATHERING A COMMUNITY | Participant Guide

Video Prework

Once you are clear on who you are building community with, you have to begin thinking about what you will do. In this [10-minute TED Talk](#), Priya Parker describes three important steps for gatherings that are transformative. Link: <https://youtu.be/ppfONdsOkWI>

Scriptural Foothold

Then he said to his servants, “The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.” So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

Matthew 22:8-10

Food for Thought

More important than answering “Where,” “When,” “How,” or “What” in regards to gathering a new community together is answering the question, “Who?” When you are clear about *who* it is you are forming a new community with the logistics tend to come much easier. Second only to “Who” is the question “Why?” When you are clear what this community exists for, you can tell a compelling story about it.

For Reflection *(please write down your answers)*

1. Who is it that you are gathering into a new community? Be as specific about demographics and psychographics as you can.
2. What will it feel like when your community gathers?
3. Why is it important for this community to exist?

Taking Action *(please fill out during our session together)*

In support of cultivating a new faith community:

For me: I commit to _____, starting _____,
and I will ask _____ to be my accountability partner.

For my team: I will teach my team how to gather a community on _____.

Additional Resources

Richardson, Bailey, Kevin Huynh, and Kai Elmer Sotto, *Get Together*. San Francisco: Stripe Press, 2019.

Parker, Priya, *The Art of Gathering*. London: Penguin Random House, 2018.

Thurston, Angie and Casper ter Kuile, [How We Gather](#). [Sacred Design Lab](#), 2017.