

## Why You Should Eat at Board Meetings 5 Benefits of Breaking Bread Together

If mission is king, culture is queen. A vital mission without an honoring culture will eventually wilt. But a life-giving culture enables the mission to flourish.

### 5 Steps to Establish Your Ministry Culture

- 1. Reflect.** Take some time to consider the values and beliefs that drive your ministry behavior. If you realize they're weak or vague, ask God to bring clarity and reveal His heart. It's vital to your mission and to the people you're serving with.
- 2. Identify.** Put pen to paper, jotting down values that describe how you'd like to corporately engage with God, honor employees, help them to honor each other and your clients, how you'll make and communicate decisions, etc.
- 3. Share your heart.** Talk with your board and key associates. Express your desire to develop a life-honoring culture, and explain what you've identified so far. Invite their input. Continue to form this initial understanding of your ministry culture, and then share it with your full staff.
- 4. Enter in.** Invite your staff to take very practical steps in each of the key areas you've identified. Allow God to shape your hearts, your behavior, and the culture over time. Think in terms of months and years instead of days and weeks.
- 5. Uphold it.** As your culture becomes established, keep it in the forefront through verbal and written communication. Give fresh examples of how staffers can engage in it, allow time for it within department meetings, and ensure that everyone, including new staffers, are included.

“A thriving Christian ministry culture is one in which individuals freely engage with their Father and each other in honoring, life-giving relationships.” –Lisa Hosler

### 5 Aspects of Jesus' Ministry Culture

Abide in Me. –John 15:4

Keep My commandments. –John 15:10

Love one another, as I have loved you. –John 15:12

Listen to the Spirit of Truth. –John 16:13

Be one, so the world believes in Me. –John 17:2

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