

Participant's Letter  
(Weekend Session)

Dear Participant:

Welcome to the Basic Course in Lay Servant Ministries. You are about to enter into a commitment to quality biblical leadership. Lay Servant ministries presents a broad range of mission and ministry opportunities. The Basic Course is the foundational course that lays the framework for all leadership in mission and ministry. Each course will equip leaders to better lead and work with others, not only in the church, but also in the community and throughout the world.

In the Basic Course topics such as servant and spiritual leadership, caring ministries, basic communication skills, sharing your faith and leading meetings will enhance your knowledge and skill as a leader.

This course is not designed to prepare you to preach. Those who have gifts for preaching may take the advanced course on preaching after this course.

The class is scheduled: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Before the class, please read sessions one through five and the biblical reflections. Take notes and list questions you have so you can clarify them in class.

Your complete these assignments before class:

1. Find a copy of the current *The Book of Discipline*. Read ¶104 if possible before the class starts.
2. Observe and make notes on the leadership styles of your leaders (past or present), in church, community or workplace.
3. Perform an act of compassion and an act of justice and be ready to describe them, their effect on you and potential or realized influence on the recipient.
4. Come prepared to share your faith story with one other person in the group.
5. Find ways to practice hospitality at church or during a meeting and be prepared to discuss the effect on you and on the people who received your hospitality.

You may be asked to volunteer to lead the devotions in one of the sections of the course. There are prepared devotions for you to use.

Bring your Bible and a notebook or journal to each class along with your copy of the *Basic Course*.

Come with a willingness to learn what God has in store for you as a leader, a positive attitude, and be ready to participate in the discussions -- both as a group and in small groups. One of the best ways to learn is through the experiences of others.

You will participate as a member of a covenant group throughout the class. This will give you an idea of the function and deep sharing that is possible in this type of small group.

I am praying for you and look forward to our time together.

In ministry together,

(signature)

LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES