

Invitation Triage Continuum Exercise: Leader's Guide

Overview

Streamline your ministry's invitation process with this exercise, designed to lighten the load of invitation fatigue, prioritize your community's efforts, and give room for the Spirit to guide invitations. For effectiveness, integrate this into your recruitment routine, briefly revisiting it multiple times throughout the cycle.

Initial Session | 60 minutes

1. **Before the session:** Choose a specific event or opportunity for invitation focus (retreat, small group, etc. Ensure all are aware beforehand.
2. **Setup (5-10 minutes):** Welcome, cast vision, and prayer
 - Display the invitation continuum on a board: 'Yes', 'Probably', 'Possibly', 'No'.
3. **Brainstorming (5 minutes):** Each person writes down potential invitees on sticky notes—no filtering. Try to come up with at least 20 names each.
4. **Placement (5 minutes):** Assign each name to a point on the continuum based on their likelihood to accept.
5. **Personal Triage (5 minutes):** Individuals select 8-10 names from the continuum to focus on. Give space for prayer and discernment here.
6. **Workshopping (20 minutes):**
 - 'Yes' Group: Empower further invitations.
 - 'Probably' Group: Schedule a time to invite; act now if possible.
 - 'Possibly' Group: Prepare tailored approaches. Identify potential barriers.
 - 'No' Group: Offer grace and pause invitations temporarily.
7. **Next Steps (10 minutes):** Roundtable discussion on action plans. Focus on the probably group.
8. **Closing (5 minutes):** End with a corporate prayer.

Recurring Brief Sessions | 15 minutes

This is more like an invitation check-in. Use it for motivation and perseverance during the invitation season. For an intentional recruitment season consider this as a weekly rhythm during the year.

1. **Updates (5 minutes):** Share movement along the continuum and live registration changes.
2. **Celebration (2 minutes):** Acknowledge both acceptance and rejection as part of the process. Pray!
3. **New Information (3 minutes):** Adjust personal worksheets with recent developments.
4. **Focus Identification (3 minutes):** Choose 2-3 'Probably' or 'Possibly' individuals to concentrate on.
5. **Optional Barrier Workshopping:** Post-session for those who wish to further refine their approach.

Optional Barriers Workshopping

1. **Barrier Brainstorming:** List potential invite responses and common barriers.
2. **Strategy Session:** In pairs, develop approaches to overcome barriers.
3. **Sharing Solutions:** Compile a guide from group input for future reference.