

LEADER TRACK

SESSION 1 GUIDE + RESOURCES

CHARACTER

Relationships

→ God

- Growing in your relationship with God.
- **Daily** time in the Bible and in prayer.

→ Family

- Honoring your family and meeting their needs.
- **Praying as a family** and spending quality time together.

→ Church

- Actively involved in church, including engaging guests.
- Attending weekend services and church events.
- Participate **regularly** in Home Groups.
- Faithful tithing, Extend The Table offering participation, and serving.

→ World

- Making a positive impact on people's lives.
- Always inviting and bringing others to church.
- **Representing** the church well in your circles and on social media.

Profile

→ Jesus Centered

- Leaders Engage in Their Calling through a **dependency** upon God as their source of strength and focus. Their life and leadership will reflect maturity obtained through disciplined exposure to God through His Word and prayer.

→ Solution-Minded

- Leaders improvise, adapt, and overcome. They work to solve problems and push beyond the current limitations. They work well with team members and remain calm under pressure. Leaders are **empowered** by grace to achieve results.

→ Servant Leader

- Leaders love people. They prioritize the team's success over personal achievement. They focus on caring for those that have been entrusted to them. They work to help each person maximize their potential. Leaders work to build the church by **building up** others.



→ Owner

- Leaders are responsible and dependable. They can be trusted to take something of great value and **steward** it with excellence because they see it as their own. They handle responsibilities and projects with care, while still being able to look beyond the present and into the future.

→ Growth-Minded

- Leaders strive to get better. They are always open to receiving feedback and are looking to be **developed**. They show honor and receive **coaching**, always working to implement it in the future. They know when it is time for them to lead and when it is time to follow the leader ahead of them.

Spiritual Formation

→ Disciple-Making

- Leaders are first disciples before they become leaders. They pursue Jesus through daily Scripture reading, personal prayer, and private worship. They understand that spiritual growth is not sustained through church attendance alone, but through consistent personal **devotion** and **dependence** upon the Holy Spirit. Leaders prioritize hearing God's voice, applying His Word, and cultivating a genuine relationship with Him beyond public ministry.

(Matthew 4:4, John 15:4–5, Acts 2:42, Colossians 2:6–7)

→ Scripture-Fed

- Leaders feed their spirit through **daily exposure** to God's Word. They understand that man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from God. Scripture provides truth, perspective, correction, wisdom, and direction for everyday life. Leaders are not simply reading for information; they are storing God's Word in their hearts and allowing the Holy Spirit to teach, convict, remind, and transform them through it.

(Matthew 4:4, Psalm 119:11, Joshua 1:8, John 14:26, 2 Timothy 3:16–17)

→ Prayer-Dependent

- Leaders maintain a consistent personal prayer life. They understand that prayer is not merely a ministry practice but the foundation of **intimacy** with God. Whether in extended seasons



of prayer or simple moments of dependence, leaders regularly communicate with the Lord and seek His guidance. Their prayer life reflects authenticity, trust, humility, and reliance upon God's strength rather than their own.

(Luke 5:16, Philippians 4:6–7, 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Hebrews 4:16, James 5:16)

→ Worship-Oriented

- Leaders cultivate private worship beyond corporate gatherings. They express love, gratitude, reverence, celebration, and surrender through personal worship. Whether through song, music, thanksgiving, praise, silence, or reflection, they create space to encounter God's presence. Leaders understand that worship shapes their affections and keeps their **hearts centered** on Christ. (Psalm 95:1–7, Psalm 100:1–5, Romans 12:1, John 4:23–24, Ephesians 5:18–20)

→ Gospel-Driven

- Leaders carry a burden for people far from God. Having personally experienced transformation through Jesus, they actively look for opportunities to share their faith and invite others toward Christ. They understand that eternity is at stake and view evangelism as a natural **overflow of a changed life**. Leaders intentionally represent Jesus in both word and action. (Matthew 28:19–20, Acts 1:8, 2 Corinthians 5:18–20, Romans 10:14–15, Jude 22–23)

→ Disciple-Maker

- Leaders are committed to helping others follow Jesus. They recognize that discipleship requires **intentional relationship**, proximity, access, accountability, and influence. Leaders pursue spiritual growth under the guidance of others while also investing in those coming behind them. Whether for a season or a lifetime, they understand that healthy disciples make disciples who make disciples. (Matthew 28:19–20, Luke 6:40, 2 Timothy 2:2, 1 Corinthians 11:1, Hebrews 10:24–25)



Congruence in Theology

Developing Agreement with God's Word to Lead with Integrity

Session Purpose:

To be in congruence in theology means to live in **agreement** and **harmony** with the Word of God. As leaders at Home Church, we are called to be **Kingdom-minded** and to develop a **biblical worldview** in both belief and practice. This session walks through nine core theological convictions that Home Church holds as **non-negotiable** for those stepping into leadership.



The Authority of Scripture

Statement:

Do you believe that all Scripture in the Bible is **infallible, inspired, inherent,** and **authoritative**?

What We Believe:

The Bible is **God-breathed**, without error, and the **final authority** on all matters of truth, faith, and conduct.

Scriptural Basis:

- 2 Timothy 3:16–17 — All Scripture is inspired by God and equips us for every good work.
- 2 Peter 1:20–21 — No prophecy of Scripture comes from man, but from God through the Holy Spirit.
- Isaiah 40:8 — The Word of God stands forever.
- Matthew 24:35 — Jesus confirms the enduring authority of God's Word.

Why It Matters:

- Scripture is the **standard of truth** (John 17:17).
- It equips leaders for **every good work** (2 Timothy 3:16–17).
- It never changes and **doesn't bend to culture**.
- Leadership requires **confidence in Scripture's clarity, authority, and power**.
- Leaders who dismiss parts of Scripture **erode their authority** to disciple others.

Where Conflict Arises:

- **"The Bible is outdated."** → *God's Word is eternal* (Isaiah 40:8).
- **"The Bible contradicts itself."** → *Context and interpretation reveal unity* (2 Timothy 2:15).
- **"Jesus matters more than the Bible."** → *Jesus affirmed the authority of Scripture* (Matthew 5:17–18).
- **"Some parts don't apply anymore."** → *God's moral law is timeless* (Matthew 22:37–40).
- **"Everyone interprets it differently."** → *The Holy Spirit leads into truth* (John 16:13).



The Gifts of the Spirit

Statement:

Do you believe that the gifts of the Spirit are alive and active and to be used in **congruence with Scripture**?

What We Believe:

The Holy Spirit still gives gifts today for the **edification** of the Church and the **glory** of God, exercised in **order** and **love**.

Scriptural Basis:

- 1 Corinthians 12:7 — Gifts are given for the common good.
- 1 Corinthians 14:1, 12, 40 — Pursue gifts with love and order.
- Acts 2:17–18 — The Spirit is poured out on all believers.

Why It Matters:

- The Church thrives on **Spirit-empowered leadership**.
- Gifts build up the body and encourage believers (1 Corinthians 12:7).
- They function best in order, love, and truth (1 Corinthians 14:40).
- Rejecting gifts rejects part of the Spirit's work.
- Leaders must operate in gifts with **humility and balance**.

Where Conflict Arises:

- **“The gifts ended with the apostles.”** → *No scriptural basis for cessation* (1 Corinthians 13:8–12).
- **“The gifts cause division.”** → *Disorder is corrected, not canceled* (1 Corinthians 14:33, 40).
- **“They make people uncomfortable.”** → *Truth rightly taught brings peace* (1 Corinthians 12:1).
- **“Tongues are fake.”** → *Tongues are biblical and regulated* (1 Corinthians 14:2, 27–28).
- **“We don’t need the gifts with the Bible.”** → *The early church had both* (Acts 2:42–43).



The Sanctity of Life

Statement:

Do you believe that life begins upon **conception**, is **valuable**, and is to be **protected**?

What We Believe:

Life is sacred because it is **created, formed, and given** by God from the moment of conception.

Scriptural Basis:

- Genesis 1:27 — Made in God's image.
- Jeremiah 1:5 — Known before being formed.
- Psalm 139:13–16 — Fearfully and wonderfully made.
- Ruth 4:13 — The Lord gave her conception.

Why It Matters:

- Every human life bears **God's image**.
- Conception is an act of God (Ruth 4:13).
- Leaders must be courageous and compassionate in defense of life.
- Abortion is not a **political issue** — it's a **gospel issue**.
- The Church is called to speak up for the voiceless (Proverbs 31:8).

Where Conflict Arises:

- **"It's not a person yet."** → *God sees life in the womb* (Psalm 139).
- **"My body, my choice."** → *Your body is not your own* (1 Corinthians 6:19–20).
- **"What about hardship cases?"** → *God uses suffering redemptively* (Romans 8:28).
- **"We shouldn't force our beliefs."** → *We must advocate for the vulnerable* (Proverbs 31:8–9).
- **"The child won't have a good life."** → *God gives purpose, not just comfort* (John 9:1–3).



Biblical Gender

Statement:

Do you believe God made humanity solely **male and female**?

What We Believe:

God created two genders — **male and female** — distinct, equally valuable, and intentionally designed.

Scriptural Basis:

- Genesis 1:27 — Male and female created in God's image.
- Matthew 19:4 — Jesus reaffirms the binary of gender.
- Romans 1:21–27 — Rejecting God's design leads to distortion.

Why It Matters:

- Gender is **sacred**, not self-assigned.
- It **reflects** God's order and purpose.
- Confusion leads to identity crises and broken homes.
- Leaders must teach and **model** truth with clarity and compassion.

Where Conflict Arises:

- **"Gender is a spectrum."** → *God created two* (Genesis 1:27).
- **"Sex and gender are different."** → *They are united by God's design* (Psalm 139).
- **"Jesus never talked about this."** → *Jesus affirms Genesis* (Matthew 19:4–6).
- **"People can define themselves."** → *Only the Creator defines His creation* (Isaiah 45:9).
- **"Gender roles are oppressive."** → *God's design brings order and blessing* (Ephesians 5:22–33).



Identity in Christ

Statement:

Do you believe Christians receive a **new identity** in Christ that surpasses all others?

What We Believe:

In Christ, we are **a new creation**, no longer defined by sin, trauma, or labels, but by Jesus.

Scriptural Basis:

- 2 Corinthians 5:17 — New creation.
- Galatians 2:20 — Christ now lives in me.
- Romans 6:6 — The old self is crucified.
- Galatians 3:28 — Christ is our new unifying identity.

Why It Matters:

- Identity is **foundational** for leadership.
- You can't lead in freedom while living in your old chains.
- Our new nature **reshapes** how we view people, problems, and purpose.

Where Conflict Arises:

- **"I'm still broken or labeled."** → *In Christ, you are made new* (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- **"My race or trauma defines me."** → *Christ defines your worth* (Galatians 3:28).
- **"I was born this way."** → *That's why we must be born again* (John 3:3).
- **"Labels help me understand myself."** → *Scripture gives you a new name* (Romans 8:16–17).
- **"I follow Jesus but still identify with my struggle."** → *Live by the Spirit, not the flesh* (Romans 8:1–2).



Biblical Marriage

Statement:

Do you believe that marriage is to be shared between one **biological female** and one **biological male** as a part of God's plan for sexuality?

What We Believe:

Marriage is a covenant between one man and one woman, established by God to reflect **Christ and His Church**, for companionship, procreation, and purpose.

Scriptural Basis:

- Genesis 2:24 — A man shall leave his father and mother and be united to his wife.
- Matthew 19:4–6 — Jesus affirms Genesis: God made them male and female.
- Ephesians 5:31–32 — Marriage is a picture of Christ and the Church.

Why It Matters:

- Marriage reflects **covenant** relationship.
- Distorting marriage distorts the gospel message.
- It **anchors** family structure and legacy.
- Leaders must model and uphold **God's design in relationships**.

Where Conflict Arises:

- **"Love is love."** → *Love must align with God's Word* (1 John 4:8; John 14:15).
- **"Jesus never condemned same-sex marriage."** → *Jesus affirmed male-female marriage* (Matthew 19:4–6).
- **"Marriage is a social contract."** → *Marriage is God's design before culture* (Genesis 2:24).
- **"It's about rights and equality."** → *Truth trumps cultural trends* (Isaiah 5:20).
- **"Love wins."** → *Love without truth is deception* (Ephesians 4:15).



Sexual Integrity

Statement:

Do you believe that God's design for sex is between **man and woman** in the **context of marriage**?

What We Believe:

Sex is a holy and powerful gift from God meant to be **expressed within marriage** for intimacy, unity, and life-giving purpose.

Scriptural Basis:

- Hebrews 13:4 — Honor marriage; keep the marriage bed undefiled.
- 1 Corinthians 6:18–20 — Flee sexual immorality; glorify God with your body.
- Genesis 2:25 — They were naked and unashamed.

Why It Matters:

- Sexual integrity preserves **spiritual** and **emotional** health.
- Leaders must model holiness in private and public.
- God's design protects from **bondage, shame, and confusion**.
- The Church must teach truth with **grace and conviction**.

Where Conflict Arises:

- **"If we love each other, it's okay."** → *Love must exist within covenant* (Hebrews 13:4).
- **"God wants me to be happy."** → *Holiness leads to lasting joy* (1 Peter 1:16).
- **"It's just physical."** → *Sex unites souls* (1 Corinthians 6:16).
- **"Everyone's doing it."** → *We are called to be different* (Romans 12:1–2).
- **"We're married in our hearts."** → *Covenant is visible, not imagined* (Malachi 2:14).



Biblical Generosity

Statement:

Do you believe giving a **tithe to God** is an act of **worship** communicating your **trust**, devotion, and obedience to His Word?

What We Believe:

Tithing is a joyful act of worship that acknowledges God as **owner**, provides for His house, and develops a heart of trust and **generosity**.

Scriptural Basis:

- Malachi 3:10 — Bring the full tithe; God will open heaven's windows.
- Proverbs 3:9–10 — Honor the Lord with your wealth.
- 2 Corinthians 9:7 — God loves a cheerful giver.

Why It Matters:

- Giving **breaks greed** and **builds trust**.
- Tithing funds the work of ministry and missions.
- Leaders must go first in financial obedience.
- Where your **treasure** is, there your **heart** is also (Matthew 6:21).

Where Conflict Arises:

- **"Tithing is Old Testament law."** → *It predates the law and is affirmed by Jesus (Genesis 14; Matthew 23:23).*
- **"I give when I can."** → *Generosity is a discipline, not a feeling (Proverbs 3:9).*
- **"God doesn't need my money."** → *True, but He wants your heart (Matthew 6:21).*
- **"I give in other ways."** → *Financial giving is essential obedience (2 Corinthians 9:6–8).*
- **"Churches misuse money."** → *You're responsible for obedience; leadership is accountable to God (Hebrews 13:17).*



Eternal Destiny

Statement:

Do you believe in **eternal life** in Heaven for believers and **eternal separation** from God in Hell for unbelievers?

What We Believe:

Heaven and Hell are real, eternal destinations. Salvation through Jesus Christ determines our eternal destiny — this truth fuels **urgency** in mission.

Scriptural Basis:

- John 3:16–18 — Whoever believes will not perish but have eternal life.
- Revelation 20:11–15 — Final judgment before the Great White Throne.
- 2 Thessalonians 1:9 — The wicked will suffer eternal separation.

Why It Matters:

- If eternity is real, then **nothing matters more**.
- Belief in Heaven and Hell fuels our urgency to share the gospel.
- Leaders must teach and lead with **eternal perspective**.
- The gospel is good news only when we understand the reality of judgment.

Where Conflict Arises:

- **“A loving God wouldn’t send people to Hell.”** → *God honors human choice* (2 Thessalonians 1:9).
- **“Hell isn’t literal.”** → *Jesus taught it as a real place* (Luke 16:19–31).
- **“All religions lead to God.”** → *Jesus is the only way* (John 14:6).
- **“I believe in annihilation.”** → *Scripture teaches eternal separation* (Revelation 20:10).
- **“I don’t think about eternity.”** → *Set your mind on things above* (Colossians 3:1–2).

