



DIACONAL
MINISTRIES
CANADA

Mini Workshop

Be a Participant with Partners “Living with Loss” December 2004

One of our significant callings as a Christian is “to carry each other’s burdens”. As we reflect on the nature of our care, may the gifts of listening, prayer and respect be evident in our journey with those who are “living with loss”.
May the fruits of His Spirit characterize our care!

Let the following exercise be the catalyst for your diaconate to seek out and/or renew ways to care for those who “live with loss”. As you consider, participate and resolve, may sensitivity, compassion and unlimited love flow in your caring ministry.

- 1. Consider** and share a time when you have experienced an emotional, mental, physical, or spiritual low time or struggle. What did someone say or do which encouraged you during that difficult time? (10 min)

- 2.** Turn to the Partners issue titled “Living with Loss”. Divide into groups (if needed) so that all may **participate**. What are some of the key elements shared in Jim’s excerpt on the front page that contributed to an experience of “carrying each other’s burdens”? (10 min)

- 3.** Come back together as a large group (if applicable) and share a summary of your various discussions. **Resolve** to take steps as deacons to grow in the ability to provide care (as described in the Partners) when given the opportunity to do so. This may include an intentional effort to empower congregational members in care-giving ministry. (10 min)

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- A.** Visit the website www.diaconalministries.com for resources.
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