



GSE – Gatherer discovery process

How do I identify Gatherers?

This handout helps us process gatherers by both 1. A Q/A process to see gatherers who are all around us and 2. A listing of gatherer behaviors and attitudes to help us see these dear people.

Section 1: Q/A section

Your job right now is to read through these questions and write down the names of people that you know that fit one or more of these questions/descriptors. Even if you do not know them personally, even if they do not go to your church, even if they are not in church anywhere or even saved – write their name down.

Names either “pop” into your mind or they do not. If they “pop,” write them down. If they do not, then identify some people in whom you see transformation and can “make” them into a gatherer.

- 1) Who do you know is the most curious about other people’s lives; who enjoys listening to people tell them their personal story?

- 2) Who do you know that always wants to talk to other people, even, must talk to other people?

- 3) Who are you aware of that currently knows many people who do not know Jesus Christ – who are unsaved, or not involved in church anywhere right now?

- 4) Who do you know that is curious about Jesus’ church and how He expresses it today?

5) Who do you know that you would characterize their spiritual life as 'active,' which means they fight spiritual passivity?

6) In whose life do you see the Holy Spirit leading?

7) In whose life do you see their focus on Jesus' mission as it relates to our world today?

8) How many people do you know that have done prayer walks before?

9) Who is the first person that greets someone new in your church?

10) Name someone you are meeting with in public place and you get a little bothered that you cannot have conversation with them because so many people are talking to them and them to others.

11) Name someone in a business that is public heavy:

-realtors/loan officers

-salesmen/women:

-marketers:

-waiters/waitresses:

-health professionals:

-entrepreneurs of all kind - about anyone who starts things of any kind:

-Others:

12) Name someone with whom you would like to share the vision of a GSE and you can see them saying "yes" (you share the GSE vision and share the gatherer role) their name is:

13) Who have you observed in a public place and see that is someone is very good at "people" – who is this?

14) Who is the person in your church family that does not “think” like most do?

15) Someone that knows “everyone.”

16) Everyone is a gatherer to some degree - everyone knows someone - the key then becomes sharing the vision with them and seeing if they buy into it. Who do you view as open to this kind of mindset?

17) The person in your church that you see great potential in but you also have seasons of disappointment in them because they are not engaged or “risen” to the level you are wishing. Name them:

18) Someone who has been and is seeing some amazing transformation with/from Jesus Christ in their life – they are a prime gatherer!

19) Who are you comfortable targeting with transformational concepts to see Jesus do amazing things in them – they are now your gatherer.

Section 2: Attitudes and behaviors:

The value of knowing a gatherer’s traits or attitudes is this: we are able to coach this - we can ask questions related to this, we can build on this. Gatherers are often like this:

1. Spiritually attractive, relationally (saved or unsaved, churching or unchurching)
2. Able to build safe places, culturally and relationally
3. Relationships are simple for them to process
4. They engage storytelling well
5. They have a very natural people focus
6. They are on a Jesus focused journey - both pre and post salvation – most likely not linear at all.
7. They are empowered by vision; they see it easily though not necessarily crafted themselves, but they gravitate to vision and it empowers them.
8. They are open to leaders having influence in their lives - open to being led.
9. They embrace and engage mission simply, though often not in detail or as completely as may desire
10. They see people broadly and engage people simply.
11. Spiritual transformation is a powerful, long term key to fruitfulness
12. Gs understand ‘no limits’ with people as well as on mission
13. Gs see connectivity with most, if not all people
14. Gs are frustrated by fermions but comforted by bosons - explain:
15. In an active place, never just one G, they always know others like them.

16. Gs view of people are driven by vision
17. Gs live the power of small - unfortunately our systems are built on large
18. Gs come with differing expressions because chaos does not repeat rhythmically but chaotically; but driven by the strange attractor - which is why Jesus' mission is what is key for them
19. Remove Gs from group, then death comes to group, death may take a while
20. Gs by themselves 'ping' all over; we need to slow them down and as they slow down, they group with others.
21. Gs you want to follow, where they lead you you will be blessed!
22. Gs are unity builders (Sync p. 132)

Because Gs can 'ping' all over and disappear at times, we need to understand this and figure out what 'slows' down a G so they can stick around:

1. Vision casting - casting vision so the G can understand
2. leadership that connects to them which implies I understand them
3. Gs form culture because they can help cause sync - p. 134 Sync - slow them down enough and the culture they form is a safe, sticky place for discipleship.
4. Other Gs stickiness bring this around too

On another topic related we need to keep in mind relating to 'church sync' - How do we achieve church sync?

*Church sync is key idea - when is a church balanced in all she is to do -expressed either by Sodalistic and modalistic; Fivefold ministry; Matthew 28 or John 20 Gr Commission expression - either way - how do we help bring sync to a new church or sync to an existing church?

1. Gs are critical - unable to do so without them.
2. I need to identify them and release them, as they go, they form the culture we need to get sync.
3. Culture is the sync we are after - as you describe your culture then you know if there is sync or not.
4. The larger group is more attractive to move toward - Gs form the larger group and eventually bring along the more stubborn, generationally passive, people on board.
5. Gs form 'sticky' for us.
6. Sync is found by definition in the smallest expression – (Lorenz paper: "Predictability: does the flap of a butterfly's wings in Brazil Set off a tornado in Texas" - synchronized chaos is possible via the strange attractor)

ILL - a bowling ball on a waterbed - it creates a situation where other bowling balls wish to follow, they do not have a choice.

Chaos definition: 'refers to a state that only appears random but is actually generated by non-random laws.' P. 185 Sync.

Gatherer's behaviors:

The value of behaviors is we can simply look and see. We can then open conversation from observed behaviors.

*We focus on five basic behavioral areas: 1. people focus; 2. Jesus focus; 3. vision focus; 4. input focus; 5. mission focus. Gs express these kinds of behaviors:

1. curious about people
2. people oriented - can say they love people
3. talk easily with people they do not know
4. does not know a stranger
5. is seeking God - may not have found Him yet
6. vision friendly
7. coachable
8. has a personal desire to see lost saved
9. inviting
10. relational
11. entrepreneurial
12. attentive to people
13. accommodating to people
14. remembers well others and what they say
15. patient - in for the long haul
16. able to be content with small
17. asks a lot of questions
18. as Gs move about, they continue to bring others with them.