

Tool for Facilitation & Animation: FAMA Learning Dialogue Technique

There are a variety of exercises a facilitator and animator can use to help people think and speak about specific issues, and thus begin their self-discovery and learning processes. These include contextual Bible studies (CBS), theological reflections, simulation exercises, mapping exercises, group energizers and learning codes (a story, picture or drama that depicts a message). A facilitator and animator's role is to set up the environment (explain the exercise and prepare the equipment or space necessary) and to ask questions...lots of them!

At the completion of the exercise, our role is to then assist people in processing the learning points of the exercises. By reflecting on the exercise and processing the event, people will move from realization to real life application and action. Depending upon the exercise, there may be very specific processing questions we will want to ask. However, the FAMA learning dialogue technique is a helpful tool we may use.

FAMA stands for Facts, Association, Meaning and Action. It represents the types of questions we may ask people and groups to lead them from reflection to action. The following is a generic example of the FAMA questioning sequence for lesson processing:

- 1) **FACTS:** To help people reflect about and discuss what they have just done or seen
Sample Questions: What did you see? What happened? Who was involved? What did they/you do?
- 2) **ASSOCIATION:** To help people connect this experience to their own feelings and their own lives
Sample Questions: Have you ever seen anything like this before? Can you share an example or your own story? How did this or your own experience make you feel? What character do you most identify with and why?
- 3) **MEANING:** To help people identify and discuss the deeper meaning of the experience, and its importance to them, others, and their community in general
Sample Questions: How often do you see something like this happen? What are the consequences? What effect does it have on you, or others? Why is this affect important? Why should it be encouraged (or discouraged)? How is this story relevant to your current day experiences?
- 4) **ACTION:** To invite people to take Action
Sample questions: How might this cause you to act differently or how might reinforce something you already do? If this is important, what can you do to address it? Should you work alone or together?

Bible Study

2 Kings 4:1-7

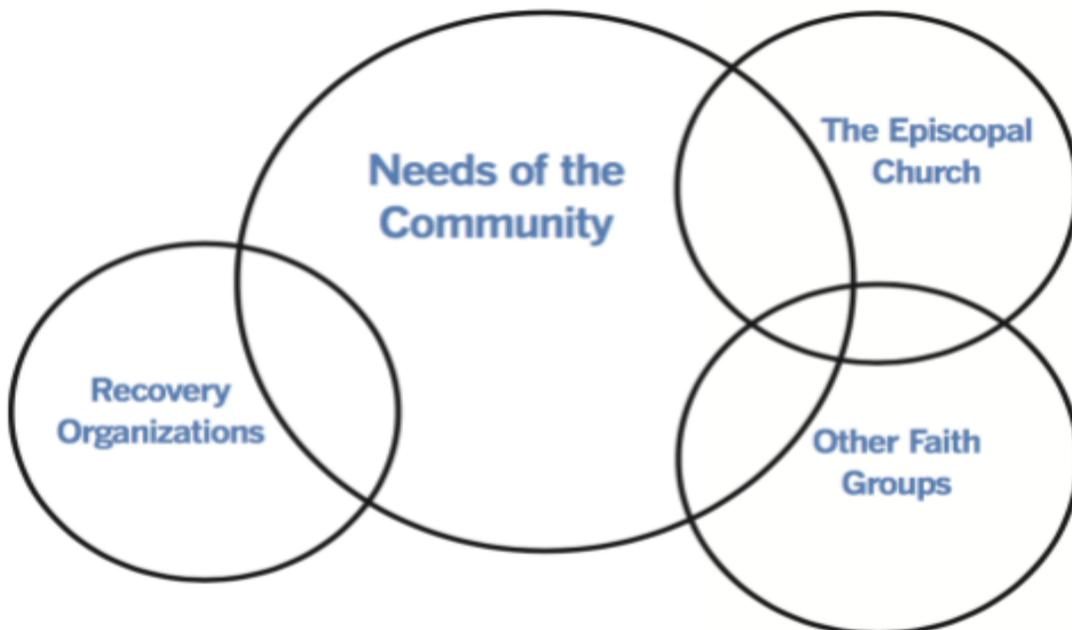
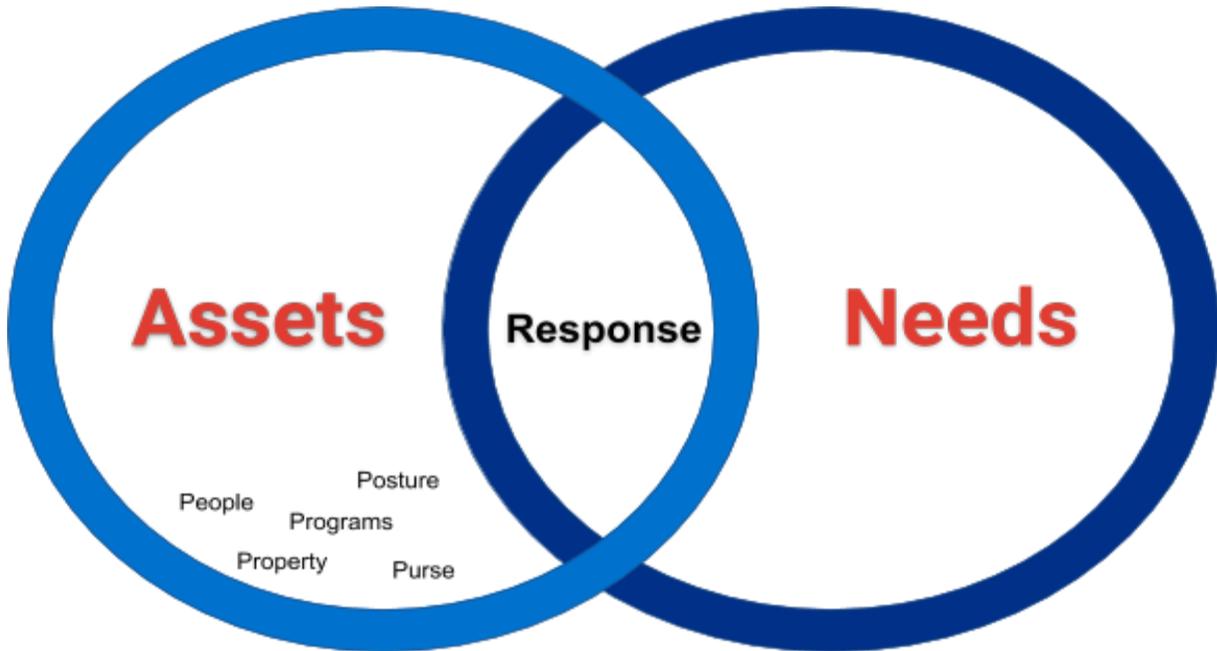
1 Now the wife of a member of the company of prophets cried to Elisha, "Your servant my husband is dead; and you know that your servant feared the Lord, but a creditor has come to take my two children as slaves." **2** Elisha said to her, "What shall I do for you? Tell me, what do you have in the house?" She answered, "Your servant has nothing in the house, except a jar of oil." **3** He said, "Go outside, borrow vessels from all your neighbors, empty vessels and not just a few. **4** Then go in, and shut the door behind you and your children, and start pouring into all these vessels; when each is full, set it aside." **5** So she left him and shut the door behind her and her children; they kept bringing vessels to her, and she kept pouring. **6** When the vessels were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another vessel." But he said to her, "There are no more." Then the oil stopped flowing. **7** She came and told the man of God, and he said, "Go sell the oil and pay your debts, and you and your children can live on the rest."

Debrief Questions

- Facts: What happens in the story? What do the various people do? Who are the characters?
- Associations: Which character(s) do you most identify with and why? What part of the story most resonates with your own life? Talk about a time when you were able to find a way forward with the support of others.
- Meaning: How might this story relate to us today? What themes or lessons do you take from this story?
- Action: What does this story inspire you to do?

Notes:

Episcopal Relief & Development's Methodology



Next Step Planning Document

Write down all the tools that resonated with you and any ideas that you came up with during the training. Once you have brainstormed ideas, pick at least one to implement in the next three months.

What idea/project/training/gathering can you implement in the next three months?

What would success look like? How will you know that you were successful?

How Episcopal Relief & Development Can Help Diocese During Disaster

Prior to the disaster

- Disaster preparedness trainings
- Last minute disaster prep
- Coordination calls for diocesan leaders during major events

Impact

- Prayerful support for impacted areas
- Support handling inquiries and messaging to non-affected areas

Rescue

- Coordination calls for diocesan leaders during major events
- Post-disaster communication best practices
- Sample prayers, liturgies and pastoral letters

Relief

- Emergency grants
- Support developing disaster response ideas
- Coordination calls for diocesan leaders during major events
- Webinars for congregational leaders on how to respond and support congregants post-disaster
- Recommendations about how to adapt services the Sunday after a disaster
- Care for caregivers and personal resiliency
- Pastoral care for affected leaders
- Disaster 101 and disaster response education
- Best practices and connections to other church leaders with experience in disaster response
- Connections and introductions to other organizations working on disaster recovery

Recovery

- Long term recovery grants
- On-going programmatic support
- Trainings on resiliency and response
- Support managing and publicizing volunteer opportunities