

# Stephen Ministry Workshop

*Stephen Ministry helps lay-people fulfill their Christian calling to love one another.*

Over the past 7 years, 30 members of NewSong Church have each undertaken 50 hours of training to become Stephen Ministers. Each meets weekly with someone who is experiencing a life crisis or challenge, such as the death of a loved one, divorce, hospitalization, the loss of a job, loneliness, or relocation.

**This workshop is FREE to NewSong partners and attenders.** So this is a good time to come if you want to...

- **explore whether Stephen Ministry is the right ministry for you,**
- **gain some skills in giving care, or**
- **learn about this resource at NewSong Church** so that you can recommend it to others in your LifeGroup or community who are experiencing a difficult time.

**On Saturday, September 10**, NewSong Church will host a Stephen Ministry Workshop from 9:00 A.M.–1:00 P.M. Registration begins at 8:00 A.M., and refreshments will be served. The half-day workshop consists of three sessions designed both to enhance participants' caregiving skills and to help congregations explore ways to expand their caring ministry.

The needs for care in congregations are often much more than pastors can handle alone. NewSong's Stephen Ministry exists to equip its members to provide quality one-to-one Christian care. Whether you want to become a Stephen Minister, increase your capacity to care for others, or recommend Stephen Ministry to someone in your LifeGroup, ministry or community, this workshop will be of interest to you.

The workshop is sponsored by Stephen Ministries, the St. Louis-based Christian training organization that has been providing congregations with training and resources for Christian care giving for more than 30 years. The workshop will be led by Tiffany Wright.

**In the first session** of the workshop, "Ministering to Those Experiencing Grief," participants learn about the grief process—the stages of grief and how to minister to people in each of those stages. They'll gain the skills and confidence to better care for individuals who are grieving.

**The second session** provides an introduction to the Stephen Series, a system of lay caring ministry through which congregation leaders can equip members to provide one-to-one Christian care to people in need. Since 1975, more than 10,000 congregations representing more than 150 denominations have implemented the Stephen Series.

**The final session** of the workshop explains "How to Care in a Distinctively Christian Way." Participants learn what makes Christian caregiving unique and how they can use resources like prayer, blessings, and Scripture in their caring for others. For those who go to NewSong there is no need to register, but we'd like to track how many people are coming, so that there will be enough materials.

**If you would like to attend, or volunteer to help with this event, please contact:**

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