BREADCRUMBS FACILITATOR GUIDE

starknicked

WHAT IS FACILITATION

Facilitation simply means making something easier for someone.

In Breadcrumbs, facilitation means helping conversations flow openly and meaningfully. It also means asking questions to help participants reflect more deeply about their relationship with God.

THE ROLE OF FACILITATORS

Breadcrumbs is designed to be self-facilitated. When playing with people for the first time, it's helpful for someone to play the role of a facilitator.

Facilitators help to bring about meaningful conversations by:

- Creating a safe space for sharing
- Explaining the rules clearly
- Ensuring all players have opportunities to participate
- Prompting players when necessary
- Tailoring the experience to who's playing
- Keeping players God-centered during the conversation

PLAY OPPORTUNITIES

- Community and cell group gatherings
- Ministry meetings
- Faith formation sessions
- Town hall assemblies
- Church camps
- Mission trips
- Pilgrimages
- Social outreach
- Meals and fellowship
- Retreats
- Quiet time

PLAYING WITH MEANING

First impressions count. Begin well. Set the context and help players ease into the experience of reflecting and sharing.

A. **GROUND RULES**

Create a safe space for play by stating these at the start:

- 1. Be open-minded, open-hearted, and open-handed
- 2. Respect everyone as you would like to be respected
- 3. Maintain confidentiality between players
- 4. Follow-up questions from everyone are encouraged

B. REMAINING GROUNDED

Share why you think it's a good idea to play Breadcrumbs together. Then invite the Holy Spirit into your midst to guide the conversation and interactions. Allow Him to turn the conversations into prayer.

C. <u>DISPOSITION AND POSTURE</u>

Facilitators set the tone through their conduct and the way they ask/answer questions. Facilitators are encouraged to model the right disposition by being:

- Attentive
- Brave
- Curious
- God-centred
- Honest
- Loving
- Non-judgemental
- Open
- Patient
- Respectful
- Sensitive to the Spirit

D. ENDING AND DEBRIEFING

Take 10-20 minutes to close the conversations. Give players a chance to verbalise what was meaningful for them and to reflect on what God was speaking to them.

Some possible questions to ask:

- Whose answer(s) impacted you the most?
- How has this impacted the way you experience or perceive God?
- What do you want to offer up in prayer?

Close the session with thanksgiving. Invite participants to spend some quiet time meditating on God's personal message for them.

CURATING YOUR DECK

1. <u>UNDERSTAND THE FRAMEWORK</u>

Every card is a question. <u>Every question is a breadcrumb.</u>
Understanding the <u>framework</u> helps you to tailor the deck for different situations.

2. DIFFICULTY LEVELS

Each card in Breadcrumbs comes with a difficulty level indicating how easy (1) or difficult (3) it is to recall and respond with a meaningful answer. This number can also double-up as points.

3. <u>CATEGORIES</u>

There are 3 categories of cards that correspond with:



<u>Head</u> Thinking



<u>Heart</u> Feeling



Hand Doing

4. IDENTIFY PARAMETERS

Before you start <u>building your deck</u>, identify:

- 1. What's the context (eg. weekly cell group meeting)
- 2. Who's playing (eg. youths and young adults)
- 3. The aim of playing (eg. welcoming new members)

5. BALANCE

Vary the levels and categories of cards in your deck. When playing with strangers, it's recommended to have more level 1-2 cards and cards. In sessions with people who are familiar with each other, level 3 cards and cards may allow your community or cell group to dive deeper into conversation or reflection.

6. <u>DEPTH</u>

Avoid churning through many questions at one go. Instead, pick out 12-18 cards and go deep.

CHOOSING CARD SETS

Breadcrumbs contains <u>card sets</u> that are tailored for different settings and players in various stages of their faith journey. Use these card sets as a convenient base to build your decks.

Pick out cards that match the group's needs. The alphabet at the bottom right of each card denotes the group of people that the card is particularly relevant to:

- (N) with Non-Christians enquiring about Christianity
- (B) with recently baptised Christians
- (Y) with youth and young adults
- (C) with everyday Christians
- (S) self reflection
- (G) group reflection for ministries, communities, or cell groups
- (E) between Christians from different churches
- (R) between Christians and non-Christians

WAYS OF PLAYING

You've read the rules. You know the players. Get creative! You can choose to follow the rules, adapt them, or ignore them.

- Pick 3-5 cards that are most relevant for your group. Before sharing, invite players to recall parts of the Bible that come to mind in relation to the question.
- Distribute a different card to each player. Invite players to spend some quiet time reflecting and journaling their response before returning to the group to share.
- Lay out cards around a space and have players move meditatively to chew on the questions. Invite them to gravitate towards a question that impacts them the most before sharing their responses with others gathered there.

Join the <u>Smol Tok community</u> and hear about other methods of playing from other players.

FIND OUT MORE

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NICK PANG +65 8742 3177 nick@starknicked.com www.starknicked.com

starknicked ACRA Registration No: 53293315W

