



WHO IS A FAITHFUL INNOVATOR

PRACTICES AND PATHWAYS FOR SPIRIT-LED INNOVATION

A faithful innovator is rooted in Christ, guided by the Spirit, and open to the future God is unfolding. The following traits outline what it means to lead with integrity, vision, collaboration, and hope.

A Faithful Innovator is Grounded

Rooted in Christ, integrity, and discernment, they lead with balance, humility, and faithfulness in both life and mission.

- Leads with integrity—honest and consistent decision-making
- Is transparent
- Follows Christ faithfully and believes in the hopeful transformation of all things
- Practices discernment and listens for the voice and guidance of the Holy Spirit
- Understands that bigger is not always better
- Finds balance in all aspects of life
- Surrounded by a community of support
- Working from a strong social base
- Imaginatively shapes a desired future without abandoning core values

A Faithful Innovator is a Visionary

They see beyond the present, discerning God's direction and imagining hopeful futures that inspire transformation.

- Discerns direction through prayer, conversation, and community
- Is willing to step into the unknown
- Knows that faithful innovation flows from discernment, mission, and vision
- Can see a possible future that does not yet exist
- Casts a vision that inspires others toward transformation and hope
- Focuses on envisioning new ways for God's people to embody God's love
- Understands the importance of and is willing to practice experimentation
- Dreams up models that can guide new initiatives toward sustainability



WHO IS A FAITHFUL INNOVATOR

PRACTICES AND PATHWAYS FOR SPIRIT-LED INNOVATION

A Faithful Innovator is Collaborative

They nurture relationships, embrace divergent voices, and invite others into a shared journey of faithful innovation and hope.

- Cares for others and prioritizes relationships over results
- Recognizes that faithful innovation is a shared journey
- Is curious and open to listening, learning, and being corrected
- Stewards resources wisely
- Seeks generativity
- Is well connected in multiple spheres
- Communicates well through multiple platforms
- Recognizes gifts of others and empowers the faithful innovator to use those gifts
- Grounded in finding transformative solutions with others through enduring principles

A Faithful Innovator is a Groundbreaker

With courage and adaptability, they take wise risks, balance tradition with faithful innovation, and steward change that endures.

- Embraces risk and is shrewd in the risk taking when needed
- Balances tradition with faithful innovation
- Is adaptive and aware of changing contexts
- Launches small experiments that lead to big and lasting change over time
- Finds the balance between passion and perseverance
- Is able to contextualize their leadership and invite others to do the same
- Ability to gather humans toward a new and common vision
- Able to consistently celebrate and lament experiments as they unfold