



## Course 4: Scholé Group Leadership with Jennifer Dow

### Lesson 1: Leadership & the Scholé Community

#### Outline:

What is a Scholé Community?

- Scholé communities are homeschool co-ops or groups that employ the content of a classical curriculum and pursue restfulness and learning.

If someone is brand new to classical education and joins our community how will that go and how do we help them begin to get classical education?

- How do we wrestle through the tension between the ideal and the real?
- How do we lead others when we still have so much to learn ourselves?
- Practices to help lead others who are new in a way that is consistent with the principles of scholé:
  - Love them: “The person who loves their dream of community will destroy community, but the person who loves those around them will create community.” Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together*
  - Take the position of a co-inquirer.
    - The first student
    - Marked by humility, respect, a commitment to the truth
    - Marked by a realization that they are walking the same path of discovery and sanctification as everyone else is
    - Love those around us by respecting where they are, and do not try to control them.
    - Do not objectify them, but see them as the image of God with eternity in their hearts.
  - “A wonderful fact to reflect upon that every human creature is constituted to be that profound secret and mystery to every other.” Charles Dickens
  - We love those around us when we are simply part of the group.
  - Love what you teach. As leaders, we should always have some continuing education.
    - Talk about what you are learning.
  - Require the director and co-director of the community to have at least two years of experience teaching in a scholé or classical manner.

Communicate a clear purpose and vision.

- Describe it in a clear way and at every level.
- One must know what the purpose is and what words to use in describing it. Tie the ideas down and name them so others can decide if our purpose resonates with them. Use concrete language that causes them to visualize what to expect.



- [Paideia Fellowship Homeschool Community](#) (About page)
  - Clarify who is served.
  - Give insight about the course of study.
  - Clarify central point of unity (sometimes denomination, sometimes not denomination).
- What kind of community are you?
- What do you want your community to accomplish?
- What are your central points of unity?
- Naming our purpose and communicating it clearly is an act of love to our families. They know what to expect and what is expected of them.
- Set beauty (transcendent attribute) before them. Trust the impact that beauty has on a person. Set beauty before them and live a life consistent with it.
  - “He was not long in discovering that it was worse than useless to speak to him since, on being pressed, he became worried. He abandoned that attempt on the first day, and resolved merely to keep to himself always before him, as a silent protest against the delusion into which he had fallen, or was falling. He remained therefore, in his seat near the window, reading and writing, and expressing in as many pleasant and natural ways as he could think of, that this was a free place.”  
Charles Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities*
  - Christ is always before us and everything around us as a silent protest against the delusion into which each of us has fallen.
  - Leading others is not about what we have to offer, but what Christ has to offer.