Healthy Church Culture:

Creating an Atmosphere of Care

This session looks at the importance of creating a relational culture of genuine care, released through leaders and into the life of local churches, and gathering these leaders into community with leaders of other churches.  Such relationships would be characterised by a family atmosphere and willing leadership accountability.

God sent his Son to save people, and that these people would be given the right to be called children of God and be included in his household, his family. The culture and atmosphere of our community as a church should be that of a family. Businesses work hard and produce things; loving and healthy families are very fruitful and multiply. Spiritual fathers and mothers create the atmosphere of care in the church family.

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1. The hallmarks of spiritual fathers and mothers can be traced through Ephesians 3: 14-21:
	1. They secure identity.
	2. They are a wellspring of culture.
	3. They create community.
	4. They are concerned with appreciating the person not simply achieving the task.
	5. They are more concerned with the welfare of their sons and daughters than with their own welfare.
	6. Their leadership touch is a light touch.
2. A relationship-shaped culture - what does this look like?
	1. Values for who you are before what you do.
	2. The same in public and in private.
	3. Collaborative not competitive.
	4. Authentic not superficial.
	5. Empowerment before excellence.
	6. A man not a manual.
	7. Trust, not fear.

***Suggested Readings:***

*Fathering Leaders, Multiplying Mission (David Devenish)*