



A virtual L'Abri term?

Study *in the context of life*—caring for children, grocery shopping, doing the dishes, raking leaves, chopping carrots, folding laundry—is perhaps *the* unique feature of L'Abri. What and how we *think* must be tested and shown trustworthy by how we *live* as embodied, relational persons. This is something that cannot be done virtually. And yet, in this time of pandemic when personal connection is mediated by technology more than ever and loving your neighbor may mean keeping your distance from them *for a time*, we hope to offer you **something like L'Abri**—hospitality, shelter, even “space” for honest engagement with the deepest questions life poses.

While we are still finalizing our offerings for the fall term (the following is subject to change!), in the event that we must “go virtual,” some of the opportunities we will provide may include:

Prayer Meeting

From its beginning and to the present, all the branches of L'Abri have gathered to sing, give thanks and pray for God's provision and care for the needs of L'Abri and those sheltering with us. On Monday mornings, we will worship together, offer a reflection, and pray together via Facebook Live.

Tea Time

A L'Abri motto could be: *Drink Tea, Read Books*. In a normal term, every day at 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. we pause whatever we are doing for a tea break. If we go virtual

this fall, Workers will take it in turn to host a 30 minute tea time once a week for those who want to “pop in” and chat for a bit. RSVP required for Zoom link.

Eating Together

Eating together is an essential human experience and at the heart of L'Abri life. In a normal term, each Worker couple hosts a “Discussion Lunch” once a week. In the event of a virtual term, we will offer one or more discussion meal(s) each week, often choosing and announcing the topic in advance. Participants (limit: 8) will be required to RSVP in advance, and *must* eat (even if time zone differences mean it's a snack!) during the gathering.

We don't have serious conversations at every meal! In the event of a virtual term, Sarah Chestnut will offer what is normally “House Breakfast” story time—20-30 minutes of children's book read aloud suitable for all ages over Facebook Live.

Tutorials

One of the great gifts of spending time at L'Abri is the opportunity to focus your learning on a particular topic, guided by your tutor, who recommends books and lectures from the L'Abri audio library, and meets with you weekly to discuss your studies. Workers will offer a variety of Zoom-based tutorial options:

Know your question or area of study already? We will assign you a tutor who will assign you a list of lectures and

books and schedule a set number of tutorials with you to dig into your learning.

No specific question but want to explore L'Abri ideas? We will provide a "L'Abri Primer" study list and assign a tutor to meet with you for four sessions or less.

Interested in further discussing a Worker's teaching? Workers will offer a limited number of one-time follow-up tutorials—something like "office hours"—to further discuss ideas from Friday Night lectures, or other teaching offered this term.

Book Study

During a normal term, Tuesday mornings include 1 ½ - 2 hours for corporate study on a portion of the Bible, a Biblical theme, or another book we find helpful for exploring Christianity. We will offer different "Book Study" opportunities to be held on Zoom at various times throughout the week. Participants will join a study for its full duration.

Reading the Bible Devotionally:

Four Studies with Anna Friedrich

Reading Paul's Difficult Texts on Women:

Four Studies with Joshua Chestnut

Reading *The Screwtape Letters*:

Four Discussions with Ben Keyes

Reading Fiction: A Book Group

Four Discussions with Nickaela Fiore-Keyes

Wildcard

Ordinarily, Wednesday night is dedicated to a "Worker's Choice" topic or shared experience—a film and discussion, an arts workshop, a mini-lecture, a guided discussion, and more. Participants must RSVP to receive a Zoom link.

Writing Poetry: Two Workshops with Anna Friedrich

Three Film Discussions with Joshua Chestnut

Meant to Be Good: Four Cooking Workshops and Discussion Dinners on Food and Eating

with Sarah Chestnut

What about Friday night lectures?

If we are unable to have large gatherings, we will stream the public lecture on Facebook Live every Friday night. *Our fall term lecture schedule is forthcoming.*

Theme Weekend Online

Recovering Our Humanity in a Pornified Culture

with Joshua Chestnut

This weekend seminar will include three lectures:

"How did I get here?": The Human Condition and the "Pornification" of Culture

"Why do I stay here?": Compulsive Behavior, Self-Rejection and Reconsidering Sin

"How do I get out of here?": Circles of Dependence, Imagination and Glory

Additionally, seminar participants will be able to sign-up for a limited number of one-on-one follow up conversations with Joshua held via Zoom.

How much do these opportunities cost? From its conception, L'Abri Workers have prayed for God's provision for our needs rather than formally fundraising. All of these opportunities are offered and made available by give-what-you-can donation.