



Gathering Question

Group members take turns answering the gathering question, designed to help folks get to know each other better in classic ice-breaker fashion. Each one shares briefly before the group takes up the primary conversation for this particular time together.

Who are your heroes and why?

Conversation Prompt

Each person in the group responds in turn to the session's conversation prompt, which invites sharing of personal experiences and stories around faith and community. Generous listening and attending to how long each person shares will help everyone feel welcomed into the conversation.

What do you wish you could tell your 10-year-old self about God?

Insights and Invitations

As the conversation draws to a close, facilitators may lift up insights from what has unfolded within the group session, including questions suited for additional personal reflection or for revisiting together in the group's next gathering.

Facilitator Insights and Invitations

Closing Prayer

Each gathering concludes with a time of prayer, suited to group disposition. Whether the group embraces a pattern of sharing personal favorites, joining in The Lord's Prayer, or leveraging the closing prayer provided in the conversation guide, this time of caring strengthens the connections we know through the love of Jesus Christ, at work in human community.

A play on Psalm 139 (*Book of Common Prayer, page 795*)

Leader: Our Lord be with you.

Responder: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

We invite your prayers and thanksgivings in the chat to be read aloud by The Responder.

A period of silence is kept after the last prayer request before The Leader prays:

*Leader: Lord, you know us better than we know ourselves;
our habits and secrets, our comings and our goings.*

*Responder: We do not say a word that you have not already heard,
you surround us with all-knowing love.*

*Leader: Your perfect knowledge is more wonderful than we can imagine,
why would we ever want to flee from you?*

*Responder: You are with us from birth to death, in heaven and on earth,
you fly like winged birds, and swim with scaled fishes.*

*Leader: Always and everywhere, your hands guide us along our paths.
In the cool of winter and the heat of summer, you are present to us.*

*Responder: For you, dark is light, and light is dark. Like shadows in the day or starlight at night,
you illumined our being, as we floated in the vast vacuum of the not-yet.*

*Leader: We thank you because we are wonderful, we are marvelous in your sight!
Our bodies are for rejoicing; formed of primal elements and glorious thoughts.*

*Responder: You write each of us into your story, a necessary chapter in your magnum opus.
How great is your mind and your heart, O God!*

*Leader: Your thoughts, O Lord, number more than the sands of time.
Teach us to think only of love, as you do.*

*Responder: Search us out, and know us, Creator-God.
Lead us in the ways that give life, abundantly. Amen.*