

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.

Tell us briefly about someone who has helped you learn what service to God looks like in the world and in the church?

Communal Reading

A volunteer reads aloud the Scripture text(s) selected for each session. Listeners may name for the group a word or phrase that stood out in this communal reading, before personal sharing and conversation begins.

So Jesus called the disciples and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.” —Mark 10:41–45

Sharing and Conversation

Facilitators invite sharing of personal experiences and stories around faith and community. Group members practice generous listening and self-awareness in order to create welcoming space and plentiful time for everyone to participate, as each feels led.

Do you have a sense of your spiritual gifts and natural talents? What are they?

Amid our present realities and limitations, how can you use those gifts and talents to serve others?

If there were no pandemic, financial, professional, time, or family constraints, how would you love to serve God and neighbor?

Closing Prayer

Each gathering concludes with a time of prayer, suited to group disposition. Whether the group embraces a rotating practice of sharing personal favorites, joining in The Lord's Prayer, or inviting several moments for intercessions and thanksgivings, this time of caring strengthens the connections we know through the love of Jesus Christ, expressed in human community.