



Opening Prayer

O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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 were your childhood role models or people that you looked up to?

Communal Reading: 2 Corinthians 3:17–4:1

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart.

Sharing and Conversation

Sharing among the group unfolds organically, prompted by conversation starters for each session and guided by generous listening so that all members of the group have opportunity to participate.

What does "freedom of the Spirit" feel like for you?

What has that freedom "unveiled" in you or through your ministry?

Closing Prayer

Each gathering concludes with a time of prayer. Leadership roles are shared on a volunteer basis among group participants.

Adapted from Douglas Kaine McKelvey's *Every Moment Holy, Volume I* (Nashville: Rabbit Room Press, 2017).

One: *We gather in this time and place, humbled by your call to ministry.*

All: *Accomplish your holy purposes within and among us, O God.*

One: *Attune our hearts to the voice of your Holy Spirit.*

All: *Awaken us to your presence, patient and glorious.*

One: *Lord, you draw us close, from diverse places and experiences.*

All: *You alone know our hearts and our needs, now and always.*

One: *Help us cherish this season together, with its moments of mercy and care.*

All: *With gratitude for the grace revealed in these precious connections.*

May your reign come among us, O God, on earth as in heaven. Amen.