

Covenant: Hopes & Guidelines for Our Small Group

Hopes:

- Connect with God and one another in prayer and conversation.
- Deepen our faith by learning and talking together.
- Explore new faith practices and learn from our experiences.

Guidelines: To create a safe, sacred space for conversation we will strive to:

Listen actively with open hearts:

- Respect one another.
- Hold back from problem-solving or giving advice.
- Try not to interrupt one another.
- Use clarifying not interrogating questions.
- Use care when talking about people who are not present.

Practice confidentiality:

- What is spoken is not to be shared, including with family and friends.
- Hold back from asking about something spoken in the group when around others.

Create a great experience for others:

- Watch the amount of "air-time" so everyone who wishes to speak has a chance.
- Encourage one another and respect the unique perspectives each person brings.
- Start and end on time. Be present whenever possible.
- If you are in a Zoom group, print the faith study or arrange to view it on a mobile device.
- As this time of COVID continues, practice self-care, as well as care for one another.

Engage in your inward/outward journey:

- As a small group, the faith study will be our focus. The group is not intended to be a Bible study, large group presentation or support group.
- Be intentional in asking for support from a friend or professional listener (counselor, spiritual director, pastor, medical professional...) as it is helpful for you.
- Small groups are a blessing for the entire group, but not to be used for an individual's financial or professional gain.
- In the spirit of care for one another and support for group, the leader may talk with pastoral or small group ministry staff about the group.

Additions from the group:

Contact information for the group leader:

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