

Journey Through Lent 2021

Group Study Guide Week 4

Including the readings from March 15 to March 20

Centering

Light a candle, the Light of Christ.
Take a moment in silence. Breathe.
Begin with a Prayer

Pray:

*God of the Journey,
Thank you for this time.
Open me up to the movement of your Spirit.
In this time of reading scripture
Help me to notice your voice and follow the way of Christ. Amen.*

Explore:

Throughout the week, read the scripture passage for each day.

Read the daily reflection.

What do you notice: what word(s) or image from the passage catch your attention? How does it speak to your life today?

Here are some additional questions for exploration at the end of Week 4

March 16: John de Bruijn writes “We experience the kingdom as we are in touch with God and in right relationships with those around us.” Where do you see signs of God’s kingdom in your life? In your community? In the world?

How would you describe the kingdom of God to someone who has never heard that phrase before?

March 18: Larry Laycock invites us to consider “family” as extending to the wider community, that God challenges us “to be restorative and not dismissive of those around us.” Who is dismissed in our world today? How can we cooperate with God in the restoring of relationships?

Similarly, (March 19) Carol O'Neil writes about learning from people she works with about what it means to actually 'see' someone. Take time to reflect on a time where you felt "seen." Try to remember as much as you can, what that felt like.

March 20: Bev Crumb highlights from the Luke text, chapter 17, one who rejoiced and praised God for being restored to wholeness. How is gratitude connected to wholeness? What are your prayers of thanksgiving today?

Write down a word or a phrase that has arisen through this time of reflection.

End with a moment of silence, giving thanks to God.

Close your time with the Lord's Prayer.

(from Brian McLaren's book, "We Make the Road by Walking.")

*O God, whose love makes us one family,
May your unspeakable name be revered.
Now, here on earth, may your dreams come true.
Give us today our bread for today.
Forgive us our wrongs as we forgive.
Lead us away from the perilous trial.
Liberate us from the evil.
For the kingdom is yours and yours alone.
The power is yours and yours alone.
the glory is yours and yours alone,
Now and forever, amen.*