

Cross of Hope Making Faith Connections Small Group Ministry Schedule

April 28, 2024

Searching For... Guidance

15 Minutes

Gathering, Hospitality, Check-in with Each Other...

How did you celebrate Easter throughout this week?
Describe a time you searched for guidance.

Opening Prayer

Let us pray... O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

45 Minutes

Discussion Questions:

Read again John 15:1-8

What do you notice about this story as you read/hear it this time?

What Easter themes do you hear in this 'I am' story?

How does Jesus connect us to God - Divine Love?

- When have you felt you were going through a difficult\challenging process of 'being pruned'(changed)?
- How did you sense God was with you during that time?
- How do\have you experienced God pruning in a positive time?
- What does it look\feel like to abide in God?
- How is abiding in one another an integral part of abiding in God?
- What does this mean for our life in the community? The world?
- How does abiding in the community of the church place us before God for pruning.
- Where do you see God 'pruning' or 'making all things new' today in yourself? In the church? In the world?

Read again 1 John 4:7-21

What do you notice about this story as you read/hear it this time?

What role does love play in faith - life in God?

- How do you abide in love?

Read again Acts 8:26-40

What do you notice about this story as you read/hear it this time?

Where is the Holy Spirit moving in this story?

- Why is this a great Easter story?

20 Minutes

Prayer Requests and Prayer

10 Minutes

Wrap Up and Get Ready to Leave Session: Conversation about details for the next session...place, day, time, and volunteer Host. Remember...bring a Bible, watch the Sunday worship and sermon in preparation for the group session.

Maximum amount of time...90 minutes. Time used for each component is flexible depending on the agreed upon needs of the group for that session.