Cross of Hope Making Faith Connections Small Group Ministry Schedule

May 5, 2024

Searching For… Confidence

15 Minutes Gathering, Hospitality, Check-in with Each Other…

How did you celebrate Easter throughout this week?

Describe a time you searched for confidence.

Opening Prayer O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (ELW p34)

45 Minutes Discussion Questions:

Read again John 15: 9-17

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

What Easter themes do you hear in this story?

How does the season of Easter influence your hearing and consideration of Jesus teaching?

How does Jesus' love for his disciples teach us how to love?

How does Jesus' love for those he meets on the journey teach us how to love?

How would you describe the joy of Jesus as he talks about in v11?

What does it feel like to hold both sorrow and joy together at the same time?

Why are you confident in the love of God?

How can your life inspire confidence in others of God's love?

Why is it important to hear Jesus call you friend?

What impact does this have on your own friendships?

Read again 1 John 5: 1-6

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

Why are God's commandments not burdensome?

Explore the mystery of the Trinity in this passage.

Read again Acts 10: 44-48

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

What is the role of baptism in this story?

What is the role of community in this story? In our faith?

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.