

Cottage Meetings II

Discussion guide for independent use

Welcome!

Thank you for choosing to share in the “Cottage Meeting” gatherings independently. We gather together to listen to God and God’s people. We are sure that God will speak through scripture and our lives to energize each of us and our congregation with Christ’s love to welcome and joyfully serve up radical hospitality to our neighbors today. (FLC Mission/Vision 2022)

Dwelling in the Word

This is an ancient way of reading Scripture. It involves spiritually submitting to the Word as one way God speaks to us, with a willingness to be shaped by what God might want to say through the Scripture. In this way, **we are being interpreted by the Word as we listen to it.**

Step One: Listen to the Word

Read slowly and thoughtfully the story of the **Good Samaritan** (Luke 10:25-37). Allow for silence (30 seconds); read the passage again.

Step Two: Three questions guiding your ‘listening’

1. What caught your attention?
2. What questions come to mind?
3. What do you think God might be saying to you through this passage?

Please share your responses to these prompts.

Please turn page over for more discussion

Dwelling in the World

This is a simple practice of reflecting on God's movement in our daily lives.

Step One: Reflect back on your life and recall a time when:

- a) You or a loved one received radical hospitality that helped you feel like you belonged.
- b) You or a loved one longed to receive radical hospitality, but instead felt rejection or exclusion.

Step Two: Consider your story/stories. *If you feel so led, please share highlights of your experience(s)/wonderings/reflections below.*

Dwelling in the Word AND the World

Step 1: Recall what you thought/felt when reading the scripture passage—the man in the ditch, the passers-by, the one who helped, God's invitations. Recall what stood out in your personal story (stories)—images and impressions of welcome, of exclusion

Step 2: Consider the following questions:

- a) Who are Faith Lutheran's "neighbors"?
- b) What might "radical hospitality" look like as Faith seeks to welcome and serve its neighbors?
- c) What else would you like the FLC Council to know?

Please return your completed comments to the Church Office or via email, welcomehome@faithshelton.org, by Sunday, December 10, 2023