



Wondering Creatively A 10- 15 Minute Discussion

This session has been adapted from the 2016 Practice Discipleship Curriculum on *Wonder*. The full session can be downloaded at www.nemnsynod.org/Discipleship or www.practicediscipleship.org

SESSION DESCRIPTION

Virtually every one of us is creative as a child, but as we grow older we often lose a sense of that wonder and freedom that comes with creativity. We begin to judge our creative efforts, seeing them more as an artistic competition rather than a Divine Invitation to experience AND express the Holy in a new way. In this discussion we will re-imagine and reflect on the concept of creativity, and through our conversation, rediscover God's creative presence and vision for our lives.

BIBLICAL FOCUS

Genesis 1:26-27 and 2:19-29

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible
Paper
Markers/Crayons

DISCUSSION PLAN

Read The Divine Invitation:

As children, we were inherently creative. Crayons, chalk, yarn, Legos, dolls, dress up clothes...virtually everything placed in front of us nourished and fed our creative nature. Everyone played in the sandbox, every child dug deep into the Play dough. But as we grow older, we start to divide people into two camps: Those who are creative...and the *rest* of us. It's easy to spot the Creatives. They're the artists, the musicians, writers, actors, sculptors, dancers, chefs. The Non-Creatives are everyone else – accountants, electricians, scientists, stay-at-home parents, auto mechanics, clerks, telemarketers, I.T. specialists, waiters, pilots, dentists...When does this magic division happen? At what age do we suddenly see "creativity" as a talent we either fully do or do NOT have?

Creativity is an experience – a life-long invitation to join hands with the Holy Spirit to experience the divine. When we open ourselves to our creativity, we open ourselves to our Creator.

Reflect:

1. Are you creative in your daily life?
2. If so, how do you express that creativity?
3. How does that creativity inspire/motivate/empower you in your faith?

Scripture: Genesis 1:26-27 and 2:19-29

**Optional hands on element: As you go through the Bible readings, allow participants to color/draw/write down their responses to the Scripture & to the conversation.

Conversation:

- How were we created?
- What was the foundation/model for humanity's creation?
- Describe the events of Genesis 2:19 as if you were in Adam's place.
- What do you think naming the animals required of Adam?
- When have you felt you were in close communion with God?
- How, or is, creativity part of your relationship with God?

Closing Prayer:

From THE ARTIST'S WAY, the leader reads:

O Great Creator,
We gather together in your name
That we may be of greater service to you and to each other
We offer ourselves to you as instruments
We surrender to you our old fears
We open ourselves to your creativity in our lives.
Trusting you will lead us.
We know you created us – that creativity is your nature and our own.
We ask you to unfold in our lives.
According to your plan, not our low self-worth.
Help us to believe that it is not too late
That we are not too small or too flawed
To be healed –
By you and through each other.
Help us to create as an act of worship to you.
-Julia Cameron



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