

## DRAFT

### **Tips for Leading a Small Faith Sharing Discussion** (Excerpts from *Meeting Christ in Prayer Leader's Guide*)

1. Let participants know the ground rules for creating a safe and trust-filled environment.
  2. Ground rules include parameters such as:
    - A. respect for each person's human dignity and uniqueness
    - B. supportiveness for each person's perspective, thoughts, and feelings
    - C. this is a place of trust and support, one committed to confidentiality, a safe place
    - D. there are no wrong answers, accept all answers, not all will agree with each other
  3. Trust that the Holy Spirit is working with every member in unique and mysterious ways, facilitating and *awakening* of spiritual awareness in all participants, even those who doubt they have anything to share.
  4. Explain that faith sharing should reflect how a particular prayer experience moved you, challenged you, or revealed a connection between your life and the life of Christ.
  5. The leader's role is to keep the discussion open and flowing
  6. Encourage sharing by asking for participants to articulate to themselves and the group what they experienced in their prayer time that seemed to stand out ... no judgement or analysis needed.
  7. When you encounter a participant who *can't stop talking*; without being abrupt, hold eye contact with them, say their name, and thank them for sharing their thoughts.
  8. At the end of the discussion, thank everyone for sharing their experience and thoughts.
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### **Sample Meeting Agenda for Either In-person or Zoom Small Faith Sharing Group**

1. Greeting and opening prayer
3. View painting and give a short description
4. Read the scripture passage
5. Play meditation (includes repeat of scripture reading)
6. Small group discussion
7. Closing thoughts and prayers