



Outline for a Small Group Session

1.

Introductions: A) Ask each student to share his/her name; age; and if in school, the school's name, year in school, and major. If not in school, job.

B) Introduce yourself and why you are interested in being a facilitator for this session.

2.

Review: A) The point of these sessions is to gain perspective from one another by engaging in compassionate dialogue.

B) Read the Key Principles of Compassionate Dialogue.

3.

Prayer: Freestyle or you can pray the below...

"Lord Jesus, we thank you for this opportunity to share our thoughts with one another and to explore the different questions we have. We ask that your Spirit be present with us and helps guide us toward truth. We ask for courage to speak up, compassion to listen, and wisdom to discern. In your name, we pray, Amen.

4.

Approx 6:15pm* Recap (Does not apply to the first week): Ask the participants to remember the question posed at the last gathering and some of the main points of the discussion. Ask if there have been any more thoughts on the topic since.

5.

6:20-25pm Discussion: Kick off the conversation by posing the question for the week. Remember that you are not to provide answers, but rather more questions. Help guide the conversation when needed.

6.

Approx 6:50pm Ask, "What is our common ground?" Based on the conversation, what values, desires, questions, etc. do the participants seem to hold together?

7.

Prayer & thank you to the participants: Ask for any intentions from the group. Ask for a participant to lead (first week, have the facilitator lead the prayer instead).

Time indicators are to be used as guides, but feel free to allow the conversation to move naturally. You do not HAVE to go an entire hour if it seems there has been enough time to discuss.



St. Louis College Ministry



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