

Small Group Ministry Session Thirty-Seven: Retrospective

OPENING WORDS

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;

a time to kill and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

a time to weep and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

a time to throw stones, and a time to gather up stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep and a time to throw away;

a time to tear, and a time to sew;

a time to keep silent and a time to speak;

a time to love and a time to hate;

a time for war and a time for peace.”

Ecclesiastes

CHECK IN

Current state of physical or spiritual health

Joys or concerns about loved ones

Concerns/excitement about what is happening in our lives

REVIEW COVENANT

REVIEW PROGRESS OF THE CIRCLE

DISCUSSION

Following the sudden death and very moving memorial service of a member in the congregation, one of our Small Group Ministry groups centered their meeting around these questions:

1. How would you like to be remembered, what do you hope that people will recall about you?
2. How do you envision your own memorial service, i.e. what symbols do you want to have there?

CHECK OUT

What did you like about this meeting? What do you wish had been different?

CLOSING WORDS

“Nothing worth doing is completed in our lifetime; therefore we are saved by hope. Nothing true of beautiful or good makes complete sense in any immediate context of history. Therefore we are saved by faith. Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone. Therefore we are saved by love. No virtuous act is quite as virtuous from the standpoint of our friend or foe as from our own. Therefore, we are saved by the final form of love which is forgiveness.”

Reinhold Niebuhr