

Mystic



✔ Prepare in Advance

Facilitator: In advance of the session:

- Review today's scripture text and the session activities to help better facilitate the discussion.
- Have the Bible Background Video ready to view.

✔ Introduction

Show the *Bible Background Video*.

✔ Lectio Divina

Lead people through four guided readings of Isaiah 43:1-7.

✔ First Reading

- Invite people to form smaller groups of three, sitting in circles.
- Invite people to close their eyes and listen to this first reading and note which word or phrase catches their attention.
- Read the text slowly and clearly
- Pause for a minute of silence
- Invite people to speak their word/phrase quietly, out loud in their groups with no elaboration (note: be sure to give time for everyone who wants to speak, to do so).

✔ Second Reading

- Invite people to listen to this second reading, and ponder the word/phrase that caught their attention, or any new words/phrases that stand out
- Read the text slowly and clearly
- Pause for a minute of silence
- Ask people to silently consider:
 - What words/phrases are staying with you?
 - What connection might they have to your life?
 - What, if any specific thought or feeling or question is coming to mind?

(Note: pause for two minutes between each question)

- Invite people to speak their thought/feeling/question out loud in their groups (again with no elaboration).

✔ Third Reading

- Invite people to listen to this third reading and consider what God might be saying to them in this passage
- Read the text slowly and clearly
- Pause for a minute of silence
- Ask people to silently consider:
 - What do you sense from God in this passage, if anything?
 - What might God be inviting you to do in this passage?
- (Note: pause for two minutes for each question)
- Invite people to speak their sense or God's invitation out loud in their groups, with no elaboration
- Invite people to silently consider what their response to God's invitation will be, and to respond privately to God as they feel led. (note: reassure people that any response, or no response is okay)

✔ Fourth Reading

Invite people to listen to this third reading and rest in the text

Read the text slowly and clearly

Pause for a minute of silence

Close with a voiced prayer of thanks for the time with God's word.

By Joy Yee

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