

Welcome

Start by spending some unstructured time together. Eventually, transition to a welcome question, either general or specific.

- General Question: What was the highlight of your past week? What was the roughest part?
- Specific Question: Think of some of your favorite experiences of community. What is one of your favorite memories?

Lectio Divina**Listen**

- Begin with a few moments of quiet or a prayer.
- Facilitator: “During the first reading listen for specific words or phrases that grab your attention.”
- Have one person read the passage aloud.

Meditate

- Facilitator: “During the second reading meditate on the text, asking God what it means.”
- Have one person read the passage aloud.

Share

- Facilitator: “After the third reading, share out loud the word or phrase that came to you.”
- Have one person read the passage aloud.
- Take this moment to share your word or phrase.
- If you have time to go through the discussion questions, do so now.

Savor

- Facilitator: “During the fourth reading savor Let go of words, and ask God to reveal how the text might affect your life this week.”
- Have one person read the passage aloud.

John 17:20-26

“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

“Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

Discuss

Take your time to discuss the following questions. Make space to let everyone speak.

- 1) What thoughts or emotions stir in you when you read this passage?
- 2) Is there anything in the text you find discouraging or encouraging?
- 3) What does this passage teach us about the nature of God?
- 4) How might this affect the way you interact with the people who make up Austin Mustard Seed? How might this affect how you interact with neighbors (literal neighbors, coworkers, friends, etc.)
- 5) What do you want to remember about this passage in the week to come?

Pray Together

Spend time praying together for hopes, dreams, joys and needs. Make sure at least one person records the prayers and sends them to the rest of the group.