

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: Who is one person that you are friends with now, but you would have never thought you could be?

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.

Ephesians 2:14-22

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to

those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

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.